Treasury Department
April 2. 1840.

Sir.

I transmit herewith a communication addressed to you by the Gld. Consul at Bonn together with two specimens of Coins therein referred to.

Very Respectfully

Sec of the Treasury.

"

Dr. R. M. Patterson
Director of the Mint
Philada

(Confidential) Mint U. S.
April 24th, 1840.

Sir,

The report which I send you herewith, on the subject of foreign coins, from its relation to money circulated in the United States, and not of our own mints, suggests to me the propriety of sending you the enclosed copies of letters written to Senators Benton* & Wall†. The receipt of these letters was not even acknowledged by these gentlemen, and I am not aware that any steps have been taken on the subjects to which they relate. These are certainly of sufficient importance to attract the attention of Congress, and you may perhaps deem it proper to take some course that will bring the matter before them. It would seem that I have not been fortunate in the channels which I selected.

Very respy,
Yr. faithf. Servt.,
R. M. P.

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treas.

* See copy on file, Feb. 17, 1840.
† " " " " Jan 2, " .

Mint of the United States,
April 3d, 1840.

Sir,

The amount of gold remaining uncoined at the Mint, on the 29th of February last, was $108,785.

Deposites in Mint:

U.S. Bullion	$26,382.	
Foreign Bullion		
Foreign Coins	36,591	
N.Y. Coin (old stock)		62,973.
		$171,758

Coinage in 1 month:

Eagles	$76,220.	
Half eagles	25,430.	101,650
Remaining uncoined, March 31, 1840,		$70,108

Very respy

R. M. P.

Dr

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

Mint of the United States,
Philada. April 2d 1840.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit the following Report of the fineness, and value by weight, of certain Gold and Silver Coins, specified in the Acts of Congress, of April 10th 1806, & June 28th, 1834.

Gold Coins.

		Fineness in Thousandths.	Value per unit.
Great Britain	Sovereign,	915.5	Cts. 94.62
France	Piece of 40 & 20 francs.	899.	92.92
Spain	Doubloon, and parts	868.	89.51
Mexico	do.	868.	89.51
Peru	do.	860.	89.71
Chili	do.	868.	89.71
Colombia	Doubloons of Bogota	870.	89.92
	do of Popayan	858.	88.68
New Grenada	Doubloons, 1837–38.	871	90.02
Bolivia	do.	870.	89.92
Central America	do.	830.	85.79
La Plata	do.	815.	84.24
Portugal	Johannes, and Half.	914.	94.46
	Crown (of 5000 reis) and Half since 1838.	914.	94.46
Brazil	Piece of 6400 reis, of 1838	914.	94.46

Silver Coins.

		Fineness per thousand.	Value per oz.
Spain.	Dollar of the peninsula	900.	d. 116.30
	Silver dollar, of Spanish America	895.	116.10
France.	Crown (ceased to be coined in 1793)	929.	117.53
	Five-franc piece	900.	116.36
Mexico	Dollar, average of the various Mints, and in the proportion usually presented here	897	115.97
Peru, and North and South Peru.	Dollar,	901.	116.249
Chile.	Dollar	906.	117.13
Central America.	Dollar	895.	115.84
Brazil.	Re-stamped dollar, of 960 reis	898.	116.10

Very respectfully

your faithful servant &c.

Hon: Levi Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury

Taunton March 8th 1848

R. M. Patterson Esq.
Director of
U.S. Mint.

Dear Sir

We are about to make you a shipment of ten tons planchets by a vessel to leave in a few days supposing that you will be prepared to receive them.

We hope it may suit you also to take one half of the above for account of the Mint & pay us for the remainder in Copper coin - this however at your option.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servts
Crocker Bro. & Co.

Treasury Department
March 24. 1840.

Sir,

By this mail you will receive a duplicate of a letter addressed to you by the Consul of the U.S. at Tripoli and the specimens of coins therein referred to.

I enclose, for payment, an account of the U.S. Consul at Hamburg for coins furnished by him.

Very Respectfully

Your Obt Servt

Sec. of the Treasury.

Dr. R. M. Patterson
Philad.a

In the account of John Cathcart, U. S. Consul at Hamburgh, from 1 July to 31 December 1839, the following Charge occurs:

"Cash paid for Coins purchased by order of the Treasury Dept." 222.14

Equal at the Exchange of 3½ to the Dollar. Dolls. 63.63

Sir

The above has been extracted from the account of John Cathcart Esqr. U.S. Consul at Hamburgh, transmitted to this office for adjustment. The amount is to be placed to the credit of the Consular account on the books of the Register.

Respectfully your obt. Svt.
Thomas Ewing, C. Clk.
5th Third. Office
14. March 1840.

R. Eden Esqr.
Asst. Treasy. Dept.

Mint U.S.
March 23d, 1840

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 18th inst. with the communication from the Mint [illegible] at [illegible], and the Coin which accompanied it was sent with it.

R. M. P.
Dir.

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury
Sec. of Treasury

Has

Mint U. S.
March 21/40.

Gentlemen,

I have made inquiry as to the deposite of gold mentioned in your letter of the 19th. I find that it was brought to the Mint by Jacob Shipman, the Messenger of Messrs. Beebee & Parshall, who said that the whole lot was to melted together, including the large ball which was separate from the rest. The balls were all of amalgam, and the dust not dirty, and the loss on melting, though considerable, was not more than is often met with in such deposites.

R. M. P.
D. M.

To/
Messrs. Herbert & Appleton
Newyork.

Treasury Department
March 19. 1841.

Sir,

I have received your's of the 19th and the box of dies therein referred to, which have been forwarded as requested.

Permit me to call your attention to the fact, that one fourth of the year will have elapsed by the time these dies reach their destination and to enquire whether they cannot hereafter be prepared in time to reach the respective branches by the 1st. of January in each year.

Very Respectfully

Levi Woodbury
Sec. of the Treasury

D. R. M. Patterson
Philad.

109

New York, 19 March 1840

R.M. Patterson Esq.
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia

Sir,

We take the liberty of troubling you for an explanation at the request of Messrs. S & G Howland, on whose behalf Mr. O. F. Cammann, Cashier of the Merchants Bank of this city sent 6 bags Gold Dust and 1 ball of Gold to the Mint, the memorandum of which dated 12 February last calls the whole Gold Dust, taking no notice of the ball of gold, stating weight before melting 403.15 Ounces, after melting 388.85

loss by melting 14.30 or 3½ %.

For the information of their friends in Mexico, they are desirous of learning what cause this unusual loss by melting arose from. At the same time they wish to enquire whether it is possible that the ball of gold in bag No 7 may have been mislaid, and not accounted for by the memorandum. You will greatly oblige Mr. G. Howland by directing enquiries at the Mint in reply to the above. We beg you will excuse the trouble this may occasion, and

and pray command at all times any information or service it may be in our power to render.

We are, Sir, respectfully

Your most obedient Servants

Howland & Aspinwall

Brought by
Jacob Shipman, Master of Beebee & Marshall.
Said the shot should be melted together.
All the balls were analyzed — including the bags
on which was written by Esparto.

Mint U. S.
March 16 / 40.

Sir,

In answer to your letter of the 11th inst. I have to state, that the only method of procuring coins from the Mint is in return for bullion or foreign coins (of the same metal) deposited at the Mint, when, also, the returns are made. It will be necessary for you, therefore, to engage the services of some agent here. It will be most advantageous for you to send fine-bar pieces if you have them, as they do not require refining, and you get might for might. For Mexican dollars you will receive about the nominal value in return.

R. M. P.
D. M.

To
J. Scott, Esq.
Cashr. Canal Bank
Portland, Me.

Mint U. S.
March 14th, 1840.

Sir,

I have this morning received, from the Treasurer of the United States a ~~Draft~~ Draft No 2690 on the Collector at Philadelphia, issued on War Warrant No. 814, for four hundred and thirty one dollars and 7 cents, which is in full payment of the account of Adam Eckfeldt for 71 medals for Indians, furnished by order of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

R. M. P.
D. M.

To
W. B. Lewis, Esq
Second Auditor

Mint of the United States.
March 12th, 1840.

Sir,

It has been the custom, at the Mint heretofore, when delivering of ingots now made by the Melter & Refiner, and of clippings by the Chief Coiner, to make a deduction from the weights, as an allowance for dirt, &c. A series of experiments lately made has convinced me that more exact justice will be done to the Officers concerned, by abolishing this rule, and making all those deliveries at the exact weights, without deduction. It is my desire therefore that you pursue this course for the future, and that also that it be applied to all the deliveries made since the end of January, when the last warrants were issued.

It is proper to add that this new regulation is made with consent of the Chief Coiner and Melter & Refiner.

R. M. Patterson
Dr.

Wm. Lindsay, Esq.
Treasurer of the Mint.

Mint U.S.
Phil — March 12/40

Dear Sir,

At the request of our friend Mr. Ingham, I have pleasure for you a medal for James Quay, to supply the place of one which has been stolen from you. I will place it in Mr. Ingham's hands to be sent to you by the first private opportunity that he can meet with. The charge for the medal, (which is of fine silver and has the name engraved on it,) is $6.50, to be transmitted to me for Mr. Eckfeldt.

R. M. P.

H. Wm. Hopkins Esq.
Speaker of H.R. Pa.
Harrisburg

Canal Bank Portland Me
11 Mar 1840

Sir

We are in great want of small change such as Dimes & half dimes. Will you inform us what cause there be necessary to take to obtain say 500$ of each

And oblig
Respy
Yr Obt Servt Jno Scott Cash

To
The Directors of the Mint
Philadelphia

TREASURY OF THE UNITED STATES,

Mar. 11. 1840.

Sir:

Enclosed you will receive a Treasury Draft made payable to your order, together with a descriptive list of the same, combined with a receipt therefor, which you will please to sign and return to this office, by return of mail.

I am, respectfully,

Sir, your obedient servant,

WM. SELDEN,
Treasurer of the United States.

R. M. Patterson Esqr

Mint of the United States,
Treasurer's Office, ~~February 1st 1840~~
Sent March 10/40. with an
official letter.

Sir,

I herewith forward you the quarterly account of the operations of the Mint for the quarter ending December 31st, 1839, which I hope you may find to be correct.

Very respectfully,
Your obt. Servt

To
Jas. Mellen, Esq.
Auditor of the Treasury
Washington

My dear Doctor

The Bearer Thomas Peterson wishes employment at the Mint. I have known him for near twenty years as a Porter & Drayman. He is a very honest industrious and trustworthy man and I can cordially recommend him to you.

Very faithfully
Yours truly
R. Patterson

Dr. Patterson.

Brother in law of Charles Jacobs.

Treasury Department
Second Auditor's Office
9. March 1840

Sir,

You will receive from the Treas.r
U.S. $531.27 cts, in full pay.t of the a/c of Adam
Eckfeldt for 71 Medals for Indians, furnished
by order of Com.rs Indian Affairs — When
the remittance comes to hand, please advise
this Office —

Very respectfully
Your Obd.t Serv.t
W.m B. Lewis

R. M. Patterson Esq.r
Director of the Mint
Phil.a

Treasury Department.
March 9. 1840.

Sir,

I have received this morning from J. H. Wheeler Esq. his report on the subject of the Gold Mines of N. Carolina - and will thank you for such information as you may have it in your power to communicate, at your earliest convenience, that I may be enabled to reply to the Resolution of the Senate -

Very Respectfully
Your Obed. &c

Levi Woodbury
Sec. of the Treasy.

Dr. R. M. Patterson
Philada.

Mint of the United States,
March 6. 1840.

Sir,

The amount of gold remaining uncoined at the Mint on the 31st of January last, was $62,533.

Deposites in February:

U.S. Bullion	$ 3,488.	
Foreign Bullion	44,804.	
Foreign Coins	43,304.	
U.S. Coins (old Stamp)	1,242.	92,838.
		$ 155,370.

Coinage in February:

In Half-eagles	46,585.
Remaining uncoined, Feb. 29, 1840. —	$ 108,785

Very respt. y.
yr. faithf. Servt.
R. M. Patterson,
Director.

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

Mint of the United States,
March 6. 1840.

Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt, this morning, of your letter of the 4th inst. with two packages under your frank, being Coins & Communications from the U. S. Assist. at Lexington.

R. M. P.

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treas.

War Department
Office Indian Affairs
March 5th 1840

Sir,

I have the honor to state, in reply to your letter of 3d inst, that the account of Mr Eckstein, for preparing Indian medals, was placed in the hands of the 2d Auditor, on the 22d Jany last, for settlement. From pressure of business, in that office, it has not yet been acted on, but I am informed, will be ~~acted~~ taken up this day, and the amount remitted as you request.

Very respectfully
Your mo obt Svt
T. Hartley Crawford

R. M. Petticrew Esqr

1860

New York Feb 3rd 1860

R M Patterson Esq
Director Mint U States
Phila

Dear Sir

We have to thank you for your favor of 26 Inst. enclosing a mint Memo for the Silver Bullion deposited on the 15th inst. We hope to receive in a day or two the memo for the gold bullion of which we are in need to settle some accounts.

We are very respt
Your obt Servts
Howland & Aspinwall

Harrisburgh
4 March 40

My dear Sir

I learn that Mr Hopkins (the Speaker) has not been able to procure a medal ~~to~~ supply the place of the one stolen from him, he will therefore be much obliged to let him have one of those in the Mint for which he will gladly pay whatever is reasonable — The name of the volunteer for whom it is wanted, is James Gray which he would be glad to have engraved on it, — he was a private, you will observe, and entitled to a medal of that class — If you could send it up by some person coming to Harrisburgh it wd add to the obligation of Mr Hopkins

Very respectfully Yours [illegible]

Treasury Department
March 4. 1839.

Sir

I transmit to your address two packages received from the Alstates Consul at Leipsic.

A copy of the D°. has been received and referred to the Committee of Ways & Means.

Very Respectfully

Levi Woodbury
Sec. of the Treasury.

D°. D. W. N. Patterson
Philada.

Mint of the United States,
March 3. 1840.

Sir,

On the 10th of January and the 13th of February last, I took the liberty of calling your attention to an account rendered by Mr. Eckfeldt, for Indian Medals executed at the Mint, at your desire, and under your order. As those letters have either not got to hand, or you have not found leisure to acknowledge their receipt, Mr. Eckfeldt expresses uneasiness on the subject, to relieve which I am under the disagreeable necessity of subjecting you to the annoyance of this 3d letter. Mr. Eckfeldt is not so anxious for immediate payment, as for information as to the condition in which his claim now stands.

I am, Sir, with great respect,
Your humble servant,
(signed) R. M. Patterson,
Director U.S. Mint.

(To)
T. Hartley Crawford, Esq.
Comm.r Ind. Affs.

My Dear Sir, House of Rep.
March 2d 1840.

I have your favor of the
24th ult — and in reply beg to
state, that I am quite ready
to vote every dollar asked
for by the Government — and
much more, believing that
a large amount of money
for various objects has not
been put into the estimates
which should have been
there on the score of true
economy — and that the Gov
has not performed its
duty to the Country in
this regard — I shall with
pleasure go for the
appropriations you desire

but have doubts ~~which~~ whether
to vote go Reports to the
Committee of Ways & Means
without a recommendation
from the Secretary of the
Treasury

Yours Truly
Obt Svt
Abbott Lawrence

R. M. Patterson Esq
Philadelphia

Mint of the United States March 2. 1840

Dear Sir

I have the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your favor of the 28th ult. and to say to you in reply that as we have Regimes a supply of Small Silver Change we will wait for the Coinage thereof as suggested in your letter — You will therefore be pleased to direct that the whole of our Silver bullion now at the Mint be Coined into Quarters, Dimes, & half Dimes, giving us a fair proportion of the Latter —

With thanks for your information Relative to the 10 Thaler pieces

I Remain with great Respect
Your Obt Servt

Jno Nesbitt Esq

Robt Patterson Esq
Director U.S. Mint
Philada

Mint of the U. S.
June 30. 1840.

Gentlemen,

In compliance with the request contained in your letter of yesterday, I send enclosed a memorandum of the result of your deposite made on the 22d inst. The amount, ($7,224.44) is ready, and subject to your order.

R. M. P.
D.

To
Messrs. Newbold & Craft,
New York.

New York 29 June 1840

N M Tattersall Esq
Philad.a

Dear Sir,

We had the pleasure on 20th inst. when we forwarded five bars of Silver for valuation & coinage but having since heard from you, our object in the present is to ask of you the favor to send to us as early as convenient a certificate of the value &c of the Silver for which we are waiting to close an account.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servants,
Newbold & Craft

Mint of the United States,
June 27. 1840.

Sir,

Your letter of the 22? inst. asks for information as to "the true Par of Exchange, between the money of Great Britain, France, Spain, Russia, Portugal, Holland, Sardinia Naples, and Constantinople, and the Dollar of the United States."

I am not sure, from the terms of your communication, whether it is your object to ascertain the Commercial Par, or that fluctuating price of foreign moneys, which depends upon the state of trade, and the market value of the precious metals; or whether your inquiry is ~~simply~~ confined to the Intrinsic Par, which depends simply upon the amount of fine metal in any given coin, or the amount which it will make, if transformed into the coin of our own country.

The former information could have best been given by the eminent Commercial Firm to which you first applied; the latter would more properly come from the Mint. - Under the circumstances, in which the matter has been finally referred to me, I presume your object is only to ascertain what the Principal Coins, of the Countries above named, are worth at our Mint, ~~by Legal~~ which in fact is the true and invariable Par, and would be so received throughout the Country, if there were no extrinsic causes to affect the value of those moneys. This information I now take pleasure in ~~[illegible]~~ forwarding to you.

It should be remarked, preliminarily, that in consequence of the variation in relative value between silver and gold, and the limitation of legal tender, in various countries, the moneys of each kind, from the same country, will not yield the same result, in our coins. Thus the pound sterling in gold, would be worth more than the pound sterling in silver, by fifty cents, at our Mint; and again, the twenty-franc piece of gold would yield here $3.84. while as many francs in silver would be worth only $3.72. Hence, in declaring the true Intrinsic Par, regard is to be had only to that metal in which large payments are made; as gold, in Great Britain, and silver, in most or all other countries. I shall, however, give the values of both kinds, in the ensuing schedule.-

1. Great Britain. The average value of the gold Sovereign, of twenty shillings, is $4.84. The silver crown, of 5 shillings, $1.10.

2. France. Gold piece of 20 francs, $3.84. Silver piece of 5 francs, 93 cents. The gold coinage is always at a premium in Paris, compared with that of silver; the latter being the true basis of estimation.

3. Spain. The Spanish Gold Doubloon, $15.60; the Dollar $1.00, varying however about one-half cent over or under, according to weight.

4. Russia. The Half-Imperial in gold, of 5 roubles, $3.95; the silver rouble, 75 cents. By a late imperial edict, all foreign exchanges are to be quoted from the silver valuation (instead of paper as formerly) and the gold coins are to be received and paid at government offices at a premium of 3 per cent, as compared with the silver.

5. Portugal. It seems impossible to assign any intrinsic par of exchange for this country, where the coinage is trifling, and the currency is largely made up of paper money, constantly varying in price. As late as 1834, it was lawful to pay any debt in the proportion of one-half paper, one-third silver, and one-sixth copper. A few gold & silver specimens of the new coinage were recently sent us by our Consul at Lisbon, but they were not easily procured, nor at their nominal rates. The new gold Corôa, of 5000 reis, cost there 5300, and the silver Corôa of 1000, cost 1340 reis; the Spanish dollar being rated at 900 reis.- The old Joannese, or Half-Johannes, of 17500 reis, in circulation, is worth here from $8.50 to 8.65. The Silver cruzado, of 400 reis, is worth 53 cents.

6. Holland, or Netherlands. The gold piece of Ten guilders or florins, $4.00. The silver florin, 40 cents. Hence, a new silver coinage was decreed in 1839, at which rate the florin would be worth here only 39½ cents. We have as yet had no specimens.

7. Sardinia. The gold piece of 20 lire, and the silver piece of 5 lire, correspond exactly with the new gold and silver pieces of France, already mentioned; the lira being the same as the franc.

8. Naples. We are not able to give any satisfactory information as to the gold coin of this country, as it is seen presented here, and is probably very rare. The silver piece of 12 carlins is worth 95 cts.

9. Turkey. The piastre of Turkey, originally worth 2s. Sterling, had gradually depreciated to four-pence, some ten years since. We have assayed some pieces of late date, without being satisfactorily informed as to their denomination, there being no designation thereof on the face of the coin. One piece, for instance, proved to be worth 15½ cents, another 23½ cents. Possibly the former was two piastres, and the latter three. We have long been awaiting for correct information as to Turkish coins, expected from two good official sources, but it has not yet been received.

Any further explanation will be cheerfully afforded, at your request.

Very respectfully &c

J. Pleasonton Esq.
Fifth Auditor Treas. Dep't

Mint U. S.
June 25 1840.

Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 22d inst., making inquiry respecting the correct value of certain foreign coins. One of our Assayers is preparing a statement on the subject, which shall be sent as soon as it can be completed.

I received, at the same time, the enclosed letter, which was probably misdirected. It may be proper, however, to say that the account of Mr. Baker seems to be correct, and that we will pay the amount, viz. 69 cents, to the Department; when other similar charges, under the same head, shall be presented, (as they undoubtedly will be,) to us to make an Estimate suitable to be transmitted.

R. M. P.
Dr

To
Stephen Pleasanton, Esq.
Fifth Auditor.

Consul Schwarz hopes
R. M. Patterson Esq.r has received his
Respects of 24.th April via London
and begs leave to avail himself of this
opportunity via Trieste to forward
the 20 Duplicate Coins and the 2.nd
Volume on the Mint & Coinage of Austria.

Vienna June 22.nd 1840.

Treasury Department
Fifth Auditors Office
22nd June 1840

Sir,

In the consular accounts, of Thomas H Barker United States Consul at Antwerp, from 24th May to 31st December 1839 I find the following Charges. Viz.

May 25th 1839 To paid postage of R.M Patterson Esqr, Director of the United States Mint, letter ordering two sets of Belgian coins omitted to be charged in Acct No 3 ——— Florins 0.71

Decr 30th 1839 To paid postage of letter from R.M. Patterson Esq. Director of the United States Mint Philadelphia acknowledging the Receipt of said coins ——— Florins 0.93

Commission thereon at 5 per cent ——— .08

Florins 1.74

at 40 cents each make $0.69 — Which if you may be pleased to inform this office thereof

I am Sir Very respectfully
Your Obedient Servt.
Thomas Winston C.C.

To Richard Ela Esqr
Agent
State Department

Treasury Department
Fifth Auditor's Office,
June 22, 1840

Sir:

It being very desirable to ascertain the true par of exchange between American Dollars and the money of the principal Countries of Europe, I lately wrote to Mr Hoyt, the Collector at New York to obtain that information from Messrs Prime, Ward & King, of that City, who, I presumed, from their extensive dealings in Exchange, would be able to afford it. These gentlemen, however, cannot afford the information, but refer me to you, as knowing precisely the true value of the standard coins of the different Countries of Europe, as well as our own. May I ask the favor of you, therefore, if it be in your power, to furnish me with the true par of Exchange between the monies of Great Britain, France, Spain, Russia, Portugal, Holland, Sardinia, Naples, and Constantinople, and the Dollars of the United States?

I am, Sir, Very Respectfully,
Your Obt Servt
A. Pleasonton

Robert Patterson, Esq
Director of the Mint of U. States,
Philadelphia.

Mint of the United States
Philadelphia, June 22d 1841

Dear Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of the very strong testimonial of the obligations from New Jersey, in favor of Joseph H. Pardy, Esq., for the place of Treasurer & Clerk of the Mint. This and the other recommendations of Mr. Pardy would have been conclusive with me, if they had not previously come to the President, upon that of Mr. Pardy was offered to my attention, — & that the appointment has been actually given to Mr. Randall Hutchinson of this city. I presume, however, that there will soon be another place to fill at the Mint, and, in that event, Mr. Pardy's claims shall not be overlooked. I have had an interview with him, and

explained the circumstances affecting
his application, as well as the
passport still ~~remains~~ held out
to him.

I pray you to present to your
colleagues, who have signed with you
the assurance of my great respect.

I am, dear Sir, very Sincerely,
Your faithful Servant
R. M. Patterson.

Hon. R. D. Mussey.

In pursuance with the facts which can be gathered
here in reply to the Secretary's letter of the 17th inst.

By the Act of March 3. 1835, establishing Branches
of the Mint, the sum of $ 200,000 was appropriated for "purchasing
sites, erecting suitable buildings & completing the necessary combi-
nations of machinery."

On the 8th April, 1835 Dr Moore, then Director of
the Mint issued proposals for Contracts for erecting the Edifices to
be erected by Gen. Gordon, Superintendent, until May 15th.

No contract, a copy thereof, was ever sent here.
It appears by the letter of the Secretary, that a copy was filed
at the Department.

On the 23d July 1836 Dr Patterson wrote to
Gen. Gordon, to be ~~obtain~~ informed

On the 31st December 1835, contracts were made
by Dr Patterson, for machinery for said Branch Mints with various
firms of this city, amounting to $ 43,630. — Thus the appropriation
of $ 200,000 was to be drawn upon from time to time, by the Supt at
N.O. and the Director, at Phil.

On the 23d July, 1836, Dr Patterson wrote to Gen
Gordon, to be informed as to the state of the edifices, &c. but no
answer. On the 18th Dec. 1836, he wrote again, & was answered

by a letter dated Dec: 27, and rec^d January 6. ~~a copy of which~~ as per said letter is subjoined. He refers us to the Contract, & says, that as $20,000 was not sufficient for the edifice & machinery, the wing of the edifice was excluded from the permit; The contract price for the whole, was $102,000; of which was to be deducted, for the wing, $40,000. He then asks for an additional app^n of $80,000 for completing the edifice ~~& putting up the~~

In the meantime the Director had gone to Wash^n and ~~leaved~~ intending to complete the Annual Estimates for 1837; from with it, his information in regard to which letter. that place. From the files of the Dep^t he gathered the information (this incorrectly as it now appears) that $102,000 was the contract price, exclusive of the wing; and enclosing the let. to addressing Mr. Cambreleng. Ch^n of the Com. of Ways & Means, he adds together the aforesaid items of 102,000 for the buildings, & $43,630 for the machinery, & thus shows an excess of $25,630 above the app^n. To this he adds, for the wing, $6,667, and the railing $10,000, and makes of the whole, an item for "completing the Mint Edifice, & enclosing the Lot, $96,500" in round numbers. This was based upon the erroneous supposition that the Contract did not include said wing and railing.

The Director of the Mint, besides paying the amount of machinery contracts, was ~~charged with the~~ obliged, in the exigency of the case, to disburse the salaries of Officers & wages of Laborers, detained here several months in acquiring a practical knowledge of their duties – besides, innumerable articles of furniture, machinery &c. not included in the contracts, were procured & paid for, by him. All these are included & stated fully in his general account, & accompanying vouchers, to July 30, 1836, now on file at the Dep^t.

Consequently, he was obliged to draw excessively more than the precise am^t of the machinery contracts; and from various heads of appropriation; namely; $ 18,911.22. of which he had a balance of $53.01. at the time of that Settlement.

The Memorandum, forwarded with the Sec^y's letter of the 17th inst. shows that from the two appropriations for the Edifice & machinery, amounting together to ... $296,500.
There was drawn by Jos. Gordon. $186,275.13
by Dr. Patterson. 47,210.– 233,485.13
Which would have overspended ... $ 63,014.87

It appears however, from the above memorandum, that Mr. Eastall, late Treasurer, drew $50,000, and Mr. Cammack, present Treas^r $4,500. It is not known here, on what grounds these drafts could have been made, upon a fund not applicable to the ordinary maintenance of the Mint Establishment, nor is it known to what expenditures they have been applied. Indeed, this is our first intimation of the state of that appropriation.

Greenbrier White Sulphur Springs
June 21 1840

Dear Doctor, At the suggestion of Dr. Mitchell, I did not leave the city until tuesday last, and arrived at this place on Sunday afternoon bt 8 o'clock

My son & myself set out for the Warrenton spring in Fauquier, but on our arrival at the city of Washington, we met several acquaintances and invalids on their way to Greenbrier, after some argumentation, conversation touching the merits of each spring, we submitted to the arguments that were spread before us, and have displayed ourselves at the immense and elegant establishment of Greenbrier White Sulphur.

The great Strength of the Water and its active ~~qualities~~ qualities will in a short time determine the fate of the patient, if favourably there is the Hot Springs at a temperature of 108 & 110 on the road home, where one or two baths completes the cure, and bt the warm Springs, 5 miles on the way homeward, we have a bath at a temperature of 96 or 98 which concludes our hopes of happiness, I was persuaded to indulge in a couple of bathings on our way here, and really it is a luxury of the very first Water ——— I have not suffered in the journey, but stood it very well, you are familiar with the face of the country as far a Charlottesville, it is highly interesting & picturesque, but beyond that point to the Springs the interest is increased by a short undulating surface, furnishing elevated points and deep dells constantly occurring, in fearful yet pleasant variety, the road at the same time exceedingly fine and kept in good order — We have occurrings on the route the warm spring Mountain, upwards of 1000 feet in height and rises at an angle of about 30 degrees, as we approached the summit it displayed a fearful elevation, and to add to my anxiety I read a pamphlet by a physician of Philada a touchingly dreadful account of the actual danger of passing down

the other side. I met the event with accumulated & fearful anxiety, having arrived at the summit, and started, leaving the top of the mountain, for certain destruction, but to my agreable astonishment, we descended to the base with a most appropriate and agreable velocity. I then lost my respect for the courage & manly qualities of the Physician who of Philad. who could have sat down, in print an event, which his childish fears had magnified to an unwarrantable amount, who was it? Nobody could tell me, such a Physician must be, the baby of girl — I am on a very interesting excursion and the surrounding circumstances are such as to insure, in about two weeks, my resumption of my public duties; make my kindest regards to my good friend Mr. Pefelitt, and every officer of the mint, and accept assurances of my most friendly and interesting consideration

Wm King

Dr. R. M. Patterson

New York 20 June 1840

R. M. Patterson Esq
Philad.a

Dear Sir,

We forward by the bearer to the U. S. Mint at Phil.a two Boxes, containing five bars of Silver recently received by us from Coquimbo, the estimated value of which is about Eight Thousand Dollars - We shall esteem it a favor to have the same assayed, and a Certificate of the exact weight & value returned to us at your earliest Convenience.

We remain
Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servants
Newbold & Craft

Mint of the United States,
June 3d, 1840.

Sir,

The amount of gold remaining uncoined at the Mint, on the 30th April last, was $93,016.

Deposites in May:

Foreign Coins	$ 15,047.	
Foreign Bullion	55,907.	
U. States Bullion	23,685.	
		94,639.
		$ 187,655.

Coinage in May:

Ten Eagles	$ 55,000.	
Quarter-eagles	22,845.	
		77,845.
Remaining uncoined, May 31, 1840, ——		$ 109,810.

Very respectfully,
your faithful Servant,
(Signed) R. M. P.
Director.

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

D 303

New York, 2 June 1840

R. M. Patterson Esq.
Director of the Mint,
Philadelphia

Sir,

We are favoured with your much esteemed letter of yesterday enclosing memorandum of the small piece of Silver mixed with iron, amount $43.58, and we beg you will accept our thanks for your attention and explanation, which relieves our minds from the apprehension of any serious intentional adulteration on the parcel of bullion we are expecting..

We are, Sir, respectfully

Your most obedient servants
Howland & Aspinwall

Mint U.S.
June 1, 1844.

Gentlemen,

In my letter to you of the 6th ult., ~~I mentioned that~~ relative to your deposits of silver made on the 2d of April, I stated that a considerable loss had occurred in melting, ~~[illegible]~~ ~~[illegible]~~, in consequence of pieces of iron being found in the bars marked H Nos. 1, 2, 3. Such pieces, ~~containing~~ were in fact taken from the pot of melted silver, in which they remained solid, and they ~~had~~ contained iron and had the appearance of being nearly made up of iron. A subsequent examination, however, has shown that we were deceived as to the latter fact, and that they contained a large proportion,—more than 90 pct.,—of silver. This silver, ~~is accordingly placed~~ amounting to $43.58 in value, is accordingly placed to your credit, and is subject to your order. I send the Mint memorandum enclosed.

R. M. P.
Dr.

To/
Messrs. Howland & Aspinwall,
New York.

Mint U. S. May 25/80

Sir,

I have received this morning your letter of the 24th inst.

Coin is furnished at the Mint only in return for foreign coin or bullion of the same metal. For a deposit of this kind, we will give you dimes and half dimes, without delay, but it is probable that we may not be able to give the whole amount in half dimes.

R. M. P.
J.

T. Asher B. Segur, Esq.
Cashier Union Bank of
Dover, N. J.

Union Bank Dover (N. Jersey)
May 21. 1840.

Dear Sir

Our institution wants $2000 in ½ dimes & will soon want about the same amount in dimes – We wish to know whether you can furnish us – when & on what condition – It would be most convenient for us to send a dft on New York and will furnish such funds as you require

I am Sir

Very respectfully

Your Obedt. Servt. –

To the Director of the Mint }
Phil. – }

Tho. B. Seguer Cashr

Treasury Department
May 19. 1840.

Sir.

Replying to your communication dated the 12th inst: I have to remark, that I do not perceive any objection to the seigniorage of all foreign gold and silver received at the Mint in payment of debts due to the United States, or for the payment of the ordinary expenses of the Mint, previously to their being issued and circulated.

The difference would be, it is believed, but small to the Government. The usual suggestion, whether it would not be better, instead of making any alteration in the bullion profit & loss account, to make up the difference out of the contingent fund of the Mint, is peculiarly as the profit on the copper coinage is now carried to that fund.

Very Respectfully

Levi Woodbury
Sec. of the Treasury.

W. W. Patterson
Director of the Mint
Philada.

Treasury Department
May 15. 1850.

Sir

I have received your letter of yesterday's date and your request shall be complied with.

I take occasion to suggest whether, in the event of the appointment of a new Clerk - it would not be well to require him to give bonds in a greater amount than has heretofore been the practice.

I remain very Resp[y]
Your Obd[t] Serv[t]
Thos. Corwin
Sec. of the Treasury.

Dr. R. M. Patterson
Philad[a]

Treasury of the United States
May 14th 1840.

R. M. Patterson Esq
Director of the Mint Philada

Sir

Your letter of 12th inst with check on Girard Bank for $ 153.04 has been received, and the amount deposited in the Bank of the Metropolis for the credit of the parties named by you.

Very respectfully
Your Obt Servt
W. Selden
Treas. U. States

H. 79.

U. S. Mint. May 13/40

Dear Sir,

I take the liberty of sending the enclosed letter to Gov. Findlay, under cover to you, according to the request of Buchanan. I sincerely hope that the occurrence at the Mint which I explained to you when at Washington, and which has been since satisfactorily established, may not be found to form any bar to him in a manner becoming responsibility. It is clear that merely the short time it occurred in transactions in which he was not acting as an officer of the Mint, but simply, as one both known as "William Findlay, Agent for the distribution of Copper Coins," under the Trustees of the U. S.

R. M. P.

To
Hon. Jas. Buchanan,
U. S. Senate

(Copy)

Philadelphia, May 12. 1840

The Girard Bank.

Pay to the order of William Selden
Ey Treasurer of the United States one hundred and eighty three dollars
four cents, in specie.

$183.$\frac{24}{100}$ Specie. (Signed) Mal. Du Bois.

Mint of the U. S.
Phila. May 12. 1840.

Sir. The above sum of $183.04 which I have been
directed by the Secretary of the Treasury to remit to you, is due from
the Mint to certain Consuls of the United States, who have presented
Specimen Coins, through the Treasury Department. Will you be
pleased, therefore, to give credit to the following persons, for the sums
annexed, respectively;

J. Vandenbrock, Consul at Amsterdam,	$ 15.93
John Cuthbert, Consul at Hamburg, —	13.63
A. D. Gillon, Consul at St. Petersburg —	55.28
C. J. Hambro, Consul at Copenhagen —	22.75
G. W. Slacum, Consul at Rio Janeiro —	25.45
	183.14

William Selden Ey.
Treas. United States.

Philad. May 11th. 1840

Dear Jos,

I beg leave to request your interest, on my behalf, to have my Salary increased to $ 1,200.— per annum.

Understanding, that it is intended to make some change in the Salaries heretofore allowed the Treasurer's Clerks, I would respectfully submit, whether the increase asked would not be a proper compensation for the trouble attending the Copper transactions, of which I have charge, although originally lately belonged to the duties of the other Clerk.

Very respectfully
Your Obt. Servt.
Geo. N. Eidebenz

Dr. R. M. Patterson
Director

Mint U. S. — May 9 / 40.

Gentlemen,

Your letter of the 7th inst., with your receipt for the last shipment of planchets, ($7150.08,) has come duly to hand. Your instructions as to the payment of $3000 in cents shall be attended to.

When your bills are paid for, we shall still have about $9000 worth of cents in the Mint, and this is as large a supply as we desire. I have to beg therefore that you will not send any more planchets, until further orders.

We should be glad if you would put it in our power to pay the balance due to you, before the end of the present quarter, — (June 30.) The quarterly settlement of our accounts with the Department makes this very desirable.

~~The planchets of your last invoice have been too heavy.~~

I am sorry to say that the planchets which we have been lately receiving are far from being satisfactory. Many of them seem to have been put up without being sufficiently dried, and they are much rusted. As to the mechanical execution I must refer you again to Mr. Peale's letter.

R. M. P.

To/ Messrs. Crocker, Bros. & Co.

Taunton, Mass.

Mint of the United States,
May 8, 1840.

Sir,

The amount of gold remaining uncoined at the Mint, on the 31st of March last, was $70,108.

Deposites in April:

Foreign Coins	$24,730.	
Foreign Bullion	16,517.	
U.S. Bullion	10,212.	
U.S. Coins (Old Standard)	679.	52,138.
		$122,246

Coinage in April.

3r Eagles	29,230.	29,230
Remaining uncoined, April 30. 1840.		$93,016

Very respy
Yr. faithfl Svt
R. M. Patterson,
Director.

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury

Treasury Department
May 5th 1840.

Sir,

In reply to yours of the 1st. I have to state, that some of the Consuls have charged the Cost of the Coins furnished by them for the Mint, in their accounts with the US States claiming a credit for the amount.

The readiest way of giving this credit is to have the Money deposited in Bank to the credit of the Treasurer of the US States as a repayment by the Consuls out of the money in their hands respectively, on account of the relief of American Seamen. To do this, the Treasurer not having an account with either of the Banks in Philadelphia, it may be as well for you to remit to him your check (Specie) for $183.01 which he can deposit to his credit in the Metropolis Bank here.

Very Respectfully
Levi Woodbury
Sec. of the Treasury

Dr. R. M. Patterson
Director of the Mint
Philada

Mint U.S.
May 6/40.

Gentlemen,

Your letter of yesterday has been duly received, and the returns for your deposite made shall be ready for your messenger, as you request.

The Memorandum of the results of this deposite was taken away yesterday, without my having the opportunity to explain one of the items, which may excite your surprise. I now present the explanations respecting the gold bars or bar #No 1, which, before melting, weighed 1155.80 oz, and, after melting, is reported at 1105.80. This occurs in consequence of ~~two~~ pieces of iron being found, in the bars #Nos 1, 2, 3. These were taken out of the pot 43.10 oz of metallic iron, and the quality ~~was~~ of the remainder was found to be reduced below the original assay so much, as to prove that 5.90 oz. of iron had mixed with the silver in the process of melting; — making together 49 oz. of iron. There was also a loss of 1 oz. from other ~~the~~ usual causes. — One of the pieces of iron was so near the surface of the bar as to have the marks from the punch impressed upon it. — We is proper to mention

that, though item va found in all the three
memby, we have not the means of knowing
the proportion in which it was divided between
them, and that the whole loss was therein, in
the memorandum, upon No. 1.

R. M. P.
D. A. C.

To
Messrs. Hoskins & Stephenson
New York

Treasury Department
May 5. 1840.

Sir,

The enclosed Bond of Jonas R. McClintock, Melter and Refiner of the Mint at Philadelphia is submitted for your examination -

The Act of 3d March 1835 requires the Bond to be approved by the Director of the Mint and the Secretary of the Treasury.

Very Respectfully

Asst Secretary
Sec. of the Treasury.

Dr. R. M. Patterson
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia.

Bank of America Mar 5 1840

Dear Sir

Presuming that the Small Silver Coins for this Bank are now ready to be delivered from the Mint, I request of you the favor to have them and the Gold Coins due us, Counted out, as it is our intention to send for them within a day or two — Messrs Howland & Aspinwall will probably send for their Silver at the Mint to morrow or on Thursday and if so, I shall request you to deliver our Coins to their Messenger —

I remain very respectfully
Your Ob. Servt
Jno McBurney Cash

R. M. Patterson Esq
Director of the Mint
Phila

New York May 5th 1840

R M Patterson Esq
Philadelphia

Dr Sir

We intend sending to the mint tomorrow for the proceeds of our recent deposit of bullion & we trust it will suit your convenience to deliver the amt. in half dollars, in time for the return of our messenger by the boat on Thursday morning

J W Newbold has asked that our agent should also take charge of the small coin belonging to the Bank of America & he will send you an order for the same.

Very respy
Yr ob st
Howland & Aspinwall

Mint of the United States,
May 4th 1840.

Sir,

Your Communication of the 29th ult. ~~instant~~ contains an "extract from the account of G. W. Slacum, Consul of the U. States at Rio Janeiro, being his charge for Coins furnished for the Mint" — You take occasion to remark, that "it is desirable this and similar accounts forwarded to the Mint should be arranged as early as practicable, that the parties may be credited here in their respective accounts with the Government."

In attending to this suggestion, allow me to state, that at the time I made request of the Department for its influence in obtaining suits of coins from foreign countries, (which was promptly attended) it was proposed that the accounts of coinage for the same, should be allowed and settled at the Treasury to be refunded by the Mint. With this understanding, I have been ~~waiting to receive~~ delaying the settlement of such accounts, until they should seem to have been pretty generally rendered, so as to make but one Statement of the transaction. Most of the Consuls addressed have now transmitted the desired coins, but only five specific bills thereof have been forwarded viz: those of the Consuls at Amsterdam, Hamburg, St. Petersburg, Copenhagen, and Rio Janeiro. — In obedience to your direction, herein, I now render an account of the bills just referred to,

and by to know what disposition to make of the money, which is a part of a special appropriation for Cabinet Coins to be received at the Mint and is in readiness to be paid.

Future accounts of a similar kind will be settled, as they shall be received.

It may be proper to add, that the coins received from the Consuls at Stockholm and Leipsic, have been ~~are to be~~ settled here, as have been ~~and those from Leipsic are to be settled here,~~ without passing through the Department.

I am very respectfully

your faithful Servt.

Hon. Levi Woodbury
Secy of Treasury.

Dr. Mint of the United States.

To the United States, Dr.

For amount of bill rendered by Consul at Amsterdam, for coins. $ 15.93
" do do do Hamburg do 63.63
" do do do St. Petersburg, do 55.28
" do do do Copenhagen, do 22.75
" do do do Rio Janeiro, do 25.45

$ 183.04

May 4. 1840.

Mint of the United States.
May 4th, 1840.

Sir,

On the 28th of October last, I received and communicated to you a letter was received from the Secretary of the Treasury, in which he writes as follows:

"It appears from the records in the Department of State, that Governor Findlay received a temporary Commission, as Treasurer of the Mint, in 1830. He was nominated to the Senate at its next Session, and his appointment confirmed, but it does not appear that a permanent commission was issued to him: at least, no evidence of it is yet found in the State Department. A commission will probably be transmitted to him to day, and, as the bond given by him under the temporary commission may probably be not now considered valid or operative, it is necessary that he should, forthwith, enter into another, and I will thank you, on the receipt of this, to institute an examination into his bullion and cash accounts, &c., in order that the amount of his liabilities, when the new bond is executed, may be ascertained and reported here."

The new bond required of you was transmitted to the Secretary, on the 9th of November, and, on the 12th, an examination was made, under my own superintendence, of the moneys in your sheriff hands. The result, when compared with the balances in the books, showed a deficiency, which was then believed, known, to be to a small amount only, and was so stated by me in a letter to the Secretary, of the 25th of November, to the Secretary. The difficulty, in balancing the accounts, & rapid examination of [illegible] to clear up the difficulty, a rigid examination of the accounts became necessary, and in this I learn that you have been since engaged, with your clerks. Your inquiries, as you informed me, I must now pray you to let me know the result of this examination, but to the conclusion that the deficiency was more considerable than at first supposed, and this fact was reported to the Department only in March. The mystery, however, was not developed, and further investigation was required, and time for it given.

The period has arrived when [illegible] delay, in making a final report, seems to be unnecessary and improper, and I am therefore to request that you will let me know, in writing, the result of your examinations.

That you will please to state under the heads of the Bullins Account, the Ordinary Account, and the Coffin Account, as I will ask your attention to the following questions.

Have you satisfactory means of distinguishing the funds in your sheriffs belonging to these several accounts, and, if so, what are they?

Is there any deficiency in the bullins account, [illegible]

Is there any deficiency in the Ordinary account, and, if so, to what amount?

What is the deficiency in the Coffin account. If there be uncertainty as to the exact amount of the deficiency belonging to the Coffin and that part of the deficiency belonging to the Ordinary account, please to state the limits of each sum which is thus in doubt.

When, according to your investigations, did the deficiencies in the Coffin account arise, and under what circumstances?

To whom was this account specially committed, when the deficiencies occurred?

Do you think there is sufficient ground to doubt his fidelity?

Mint of the United States,
July 31. 1840.

Gentlemen:

I have to thank you for your letter of yesterday, although it shows us guilty of a second Mistake. This last was committed by the Clerk of the Weigh-room, who wrote the weight after melting 87.82, instead of 83.82. The difference, against the Mint, was $ 73.82, which has been corrected according to your suggestion.

Very respectfully,

R. M. P.
Dr.

To
Messrs. Bates & Parkhall,
New York.

New York July 20 1840

R M Backus Esq

Sir

We received your
polite letter of 22nd & were happy
to find the error corrected & agreeable
to our calculations - we are
now obliged to send back another
Memorandum in which we
think there is another error as you
will observe the Gold weighs more
after melting than before should
you find we have been over paid
please deduct the amount from the
first bill of Exchange may receive &
render a Corrected return

We are very respectfully

Your Obt Servts

Backus & Atterbury

Gun
83.84 — 83.82
after

Mint of the United States
Treasurer's Office July 27 1840

Sir,

I herewith forward you the quarterly accounts of the operations of this Mint for the quarter ending June 30 ult. 1840. which I hope you may find to be correct.

Very respectfully
Your obt. Servt.

To/

Jesse Miller Esq.
1st Auditor of the Treasury
Washington.

Mint of the United States
July 29, 1840.

Sir,

I have the honor to send you herewith the bond and oath given by Mr. Joseph H. Purdy, on entering upon his duties as a clerk of the Mint under the Sub-treasury act.

Very respectfully,
Your faithful Servt.
(Signed) R. M. Patterson,
Director.

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury
Sec. of Treasury.

Bond $5000.
Sureties — Jos. H. Purdy, Trenton, N.J.
Crispin Blackfan do. "
Eli D. Cooley, Evesing, Mercer Co. N.J.
Dated July 22. 1840

Boston July 28. 1840. Received of John Williams One small package marked "R M Patterson Esqe Philadelphia" which I promise to deliver him, he paying freight therefor.

W F Harnden
pr J W Lawrence

Dear Sir,

Above you have Mr Harnden's receipt for a small package sent to my care by Mr Offley the United States consul at Smyrna.

Hoping it will arrive with you in safety.

I remain,
Yours respectfully
John Williams per
John E Williams

Treasury Department.
Comptroller's Office
July 27th 1840.

Sir,

Your letter of the 24th instant has been received.

On examining the Contingent accounts of Mr. Findlay, I find that the "Former differences" arise from an error made in the adjustment of his accounts for the 2d & 3d quarters of 1839, which sum (21 cents) will be credited to him in the next account.

The overcharge for contingent expenses 4th quarter 1839, is an error in the bill of William Eckfelt - Warrant No. 250 - 7½ feet leathern belt charged at $1.65 instead of $1.35.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svt
Ch Baker
Comptroller

Dr: R. M. Patterson
Director of the Mint.
Philadelphia.

Washington. 25th. July 1840

Bach. R. M. Patterson,

Dear Sir,

Allow me to make you acquainted with Mr. Alexander Valtemare — who is a gentleman of various talents and much zeal in literary pursuits. He is anxious to see & obtain medals, and you will greatly oblige me as well as him, by shewing to him every thing of interest connected with the Mint.

Respectfully

Levi Woodbury

Treasury Department
July 24. 1830.

Sir

I have received your communication of the 23rd inst. and can see no objection to the course you recommend in exchanging coin, and you are authorised to adopt it at your institution, and at N. Orleans if you deem it desirable to do so.

I would remark, however, that the account of profit and loss cannot be admitted on the books of the subtreasury, but must be kept on the Mint books.

Very Respectfully

Louis McLane

Sec. of the Treasury

P.S. Would it be well hereafter to have all lists for particular coins of the same

L. M.

Dr. R. M. Patterson
Director of the Mint
Philad.a

Mint of the United States,
July 24th, 1840.

Sir,

An official letter from you to the Treasurer of the Mint, of the 23d inst., has just been received containing the result of the adjustment of the Ordinary accounts of the Mint for the last quarter of 1839. As Gov. Pindlay is absent, I take the liberty of asking an explanation, from your office, of the following items:

"Add ~~Deduct~~ former differences $0.21
"Exchange for Contingent Expenses
of this Quarter 0.30 — $0.51."

This is a very small matter as to amount, but no error is small in the eyes of a good Book-Keeper, and our Clerks are anxious about the above, with regard to which they are quite in the dark.

R. M. P.
Dr

To
Jas. A. Barker, Esq.
First Comptroller
&c &c.

Mint of the U. S.
July 23. 1840.

Sir,

Your letter of the 15th inst. was duly received, with the accompanying Specimen of ore, which had been given to you as supposed to contain a portion of Silver and perhaps of gold.

It was easy to see that the ore was nothing more than Galena, or the Sulphuret of Lead. But, at your request, Mr. Eckfeldt has subjected it to analysis, and finds it to be composed as follows:

Lead	84.70
Sulphur	13.00
Silver	0.17
Silex	1.90
Loss	0.23
	100.00

You see that there is but a mere trace of Silver, such as almost uniformly is found with Lead.

R. M. P.

To/
Hon. Levi Woodbury.

Treasury Department
First Comptroller's Office
July 23d 1840

Sir,

Your account in relation to the Ordinary Receipts & Expenditures of U.S. Mint at Philad.a for the 4th Qr 1839 has been adjusted at the Treasury, and a balance of $59.512.60 Stands to be Due from you to the United States.

Balance per your account		$59.512.09
Add former differences	$.21.	
Overcharge for Contingent Expenses of this Quarter	.30	.51
Balance as above	Dollars	59.512.60

Very respectfully
Your obd.t Servt
Comptroller

William Strickland Esq.r
Treasurer
U.S. Mint
Philad.a

59.512.60
.21
59.512.39

(Copy.)

Treasury Department,
Comptroller's Office
July 27, 1840.

Sir,

Your letter of the 24th inst. has been received.

"On examining the Contingent accounts of Mr. Dudley I find that the "former difference" arose from an error made in the adjustment of his accounts for the 2d & 3d Quarters of 1839, which sum (25 cents) will be credited to him in the next account."

"The overcharge for contingent expenses, 4th Quarter 1839, is an error in the bill of William Eckfeldt — Warrant No. 257 — 7½ feet bottom Rect, charged at $1.65 instead of $1.35."

Very respectfully,
Your obt. Servt.
(Signed) S. R. Barker,
Comptroller.

Dr. R. M. Patterson,
Director of the Mint,
Philadelphia.

A true copy,
Geo. F. Downing,
Director's Clerk.

Treasury Department
July 23. 1840.

Sir,

It is desirable, that the Gold coinage, for the present, be limited to Eagles and I will thank to cause it to be done, so far as it can be, without interfering with the requests of depositors.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servt
Sec. of the Treasury

Dr. R. M. Patterson
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia

Mint U. S.
July 22. 40.

Gentlemen.

Your letter of the 20th to the Treasurer of the Mint, was duly received, and the matter of which you speak was referred to the Assayer, who is mortified to find that the error which you suspected was in fact committed, as he finds by a new Assay. A corrected memorandum is enclosed, and the balance remaining due to you will be paid to your order on demand.

In consideration of Mr Eckfeldt's great skill and accuracy as an Assayer, and of the exceeding care which he takes to avoid errors in his reports, I hope that you will join me in excusing this single mistake.

R. M. T. Patterson
Dr

Messrs Bailey Marshall,
New York.

Mint of the United States
July 21st, 1849

Sir

I had yesterday the pleasure of receiving your letter of the 18th inst. I immediately wrote to Mr Purdy to inform him of his appointment, and sent him a form of a bond to be executed by him, filled up with the amount of $5000, — this being the same instrument by you in the hands of our last clerk, Mr. Shoemaker.

A deposite of $46,423.93 was made in the Sub-treasury yesterday from the Philadelphia Custom House. It is made up, in part, of Mexican dollars and five-franc pieces. This circumstance induces me again to call your attention to the remarks made in my letter to you of the 12th of last month, and which apply fully to the present case. It seems to me most unbecoming that foreign coins should be paid away from the Mint, and especially such coins as do not correspond in denomination with our own. After this evil could be remedied, if the Mint were authorized by the Department to exchange the foreign coins paid into the Sub-treasury for U.S. Coin

[illegible]

with this proposal, — but as they are both
alike, if any they, more than objections of
form, I hope they may be overcome.
The first has regard to the nominal par-
ties to the sale and purchase, — the Treasu-
rer of the Mint being at the same time bot
bankrupt under the bank act. The second
difficulty is that the mariage will give
rise to a profit & loss account, ~~and they~~
~~this will be my lighting it would be upon~~
~~others~~ instructions from the Department
in the settlement of money.

As to the latter point, I think to remark
first, that it is the opinion of our Attorney
is that the exchange will be, on the whole,
a gain to the subtreasury ~~is~~ as much as
the most usual foreign coin is, the Mexican
dollar, and as British sovereigns are
refused at our custom houses at what is
conceived by ~~behind~~ to be their intrinsic value
under the act of June 28, 1834.
I do not see how a profit and loss coin
account can be avoided, as counterfeit
and light pieces must sometimes be met with, which
cannot be traced back to the original payers.

If our public deposits be not seriously dimin-
ished, the payments could always be made at
par, so that there would be no interruption
in the operations of the subtreasury. If the
operations of a Coin profit and loss account
is objected to in the Department, I think
there would be no objection to authori-
zing it in the Mint ~~accounts~~ books, as you
have done in the case of moneys furnish-
ed to us for our own ~~contingent~~ ordinary
expenses.

I respectfully ask your instructions in this
matter.

R. M. P.

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury
Sec. of Treas.

Trenton N.J. July 21st 1840.

Sir

I have the honor of acknowledging the receipt of your letter of the 20th inst. conveying the pleasing intelligence that you had received the approbation required by law, to my appointment as a Clerk of the Treasurer of the Mint, under the Act to provide for the collection, safe-keeping, transfer, and disbursement of the public revenue. Approved July 4th 1840. with a Salary limited by law to $800. per annum, and enclosing a bond to be executed by me &c.

I accept of the appointment with pleasure, and am making my arrangements to enter upon the discharge of the duties thereof as early as possible, which I expect will be within a few days.

I have the honor to be
with great respect
Your Obedient Servant

Wm. J. Purdy

To
Dr. R. M. Patterson
Director of the Mint of
the United States
Philadelphia.

Mint U. S.
July 20th, 1840.

Sir,

I am required this morning, from the Secretary of the Treasury, the approbation required by law to your appointment as a Clerk of the Treasurer of the Mint, under the "Act to provide for the collection, safe-keeping, transfer and disbursement of the public revenue", approved July 4th, 1840.

The salary, as you know, is limited by the law to $800 per annum.

Your friend Gen. DuBois has informed me that you had expressed your willingness to accept the situation, — and it being desirable that you should enter upon the execution of its duties as early as possible, I send you herewith the bond which it will be necessary for you to execute. I send it to Trenton, in the supposition that your functions are to be confined for there. If it be so, I will thank you to get a certificate annexed to the bond, by the District Attorney, that the sureties are good and sufficient. You will take your oath of office here.

P. W. P.

Joseph H. Purdy, Esq.
Trenton, N. J.

Treasury Department
18th. July 1840

Sir,

Yours of the 17th. inst. has been received.

I am duly appreciate your reasons for desiring the operations of the Mint not to be crippled and shall endeavor to amend it so far as practicable without injury to other paramount considerations.

It gives me great pleasure to learn, that the Treasurer has concluded to proceed at once & receive deposits under the new laws.

The gentleman nominated as Clerk under it - viz Joseph H. Reedy, is approved at a Salary of $800. p. annum - and the expense of any new necessary bonds are also approved. He had better require bonds, I should think, of his Clerk. Copies of the Circulars to the Treasurers are ordered for your use.

I have no doubt the difficulties under the act will be found less than many have supposed, if they are grappled with early, perseveringly & firmly -

Respectfully

Levi Woodbury
Sec of Tr.

R. M. Patterson Esqr. Director of Mint
at Philadelphia -

P.S. Please to communicate the contents of this to the Treasurer.

Mint U. S.
July 17th, 1840.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15th inst.

Our public deposits is one of the most efficient parts of the Machinery of the Mint. I shall mourn over the necessity which, upon occasion, is likely to cripple its operations. I took pains to explain to you, on a former occasion, why the reasons why deposites made at the Mint cannot always be coined promptly. When we have silver to part from gold, we must wait until we have gold to part from silver, or both processes, if performed separately, would be unnecessarily laborious and expensive. If we have but little silver, we should wait till we have a proper proportion of fine, or we must go through an expensive process of refining, which a little delay would render unnecessary. In fact, in a Mint skilfully and economically conducted, there must always be a considerable portion of the gold and silver, uncoined, in the hands of the officers; and, if the equivalent of this portion is not supplied to the Mint, by the government,

as a capital in advance, depositors must be subjected to delays, and the officers to vexations and unjust complaints.

The Treasurer of the Mint received, this morning, the instructions from your Department for which he has been waiting and he feels himself now authorized to take the deposits offered to him by the Officers of the Post, and has written to him to that effect. He will use temporarily the vault ~~which~~ devoted to the Mint buildings, until a separate vault can be prepared.

I deem it of great importance that all the operations of the Sub-treasury be kept perfectly distinct from those of the Mint — a separate office, — separate vaults, — separate books, — separate clerks. The last is, in my judgment not less necessary than the others: indeed our present clerks are fully occupied, and have their distinct departments to attend to. I took the liberty of naming a suitable clerk for the Sub-treasury yesterday, and I hope to hear of that the appointment has been approved.

I take great interest in this new measure of the government, which accords with my principles views of political economy, and to which I attribute much of its success. ~~I have in my letter of the 7th inst~~ the earliest opportunity of keeping before the public of its execution which is committed to the Mint, should give satisfaction, and our officers have shown themselves willing to sacrifice their comforts and their rights, to afford the accommodations necessary for this purpose. The requisite arrangements can not be delayed, only until your authority to make them shall be received.

P. M. P.

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury
Sec. of Treasury

Philadelphia July 16. 1840

Sir,

I respectfully inform you that I am an applicant for a clerkship in the Sub. Treasury, but the U. S. Mint stations, and beg leave to refer you to Dr S. R. M'Clintock of the Mint, and to two recommendatory letters, one from the Hon. James Buchanan, the other from Dr Sturgeon, of the U. S. Senate, to Gov. Findlay, Treasurer of the U. S. Mint.

Should my application receive a favorable consideration, every effort will be made to perform the duties devolving on me in a satisfactory manner.

Dr R. M. Patterson
Director U. S. Mint

With much respect,
James L. Wharton

Treasury Department
July 16. 1850.

Sir,

I have just received your letters of the 15th., and you are authorised to proceed with the alterations proposed by you so far as they may be found necessary after the receipt and consideration of my letter of yesterday.

The business for the present will be so limited, that I am in hopes that the Treasurer will be able with his present accommodations to enter at once on the duties, and that his present clerk will be sufficient, until further time and experience shall shew that another is necessary. It has not been supposed that another clerk would be required, at least for some time - but, if on further consideration the Treasurer and yourself shall both think another necessary I will at once act on the nomination submitted by you.

Very Respectfully

Jesse Thomas Henry

Acc. of the Treasury.

T. P. M. Patterson
Philadelphia

Mint U. S.
July 15/40.

Sir,

Gov. Findlay and myself both think it very desirable that the clerk to be allowed ~~under~~ to the Mint under the act of ~~July~~ the 4th inst., "to provide for the collection, safe-keeping, transfer, and disbursement of the public revenue," should be appointed without delay; and in this view, I am sure that you will join us. I beg leave therefore to apply, through you, for the approbation of the President, to the appointment, to this clerkship, of Mr. Joseph H. Purdy, now of Trenton, New Jersey. I have had ~~the strongest~~ personal assurances of his fitness and merit which are entirely satisfactory, and I send enclosed testimonials in his favor of the highest character. When these were given, ~~when~~ Mr. Purdy was an applicant for the place rendered vacant by the removal of Mr. Benezet; but he now consents to serve in the subtreasury, though at the reduced and thus inadequate salary of $800. — It can hardly be necessary for me to state, that Gov. Findlay joins me as to the ~~chief~~ propriety of this

Selection.

P. M. P.
D.

Hon. Levi Woodbury
Sec. of Treas.

Enclosing the following letters:

From Jos. W. Purdy, Esq. dated June 18th
" S. D. Westcott, " " " "
" Stacy G. Potts " " " "
" Wm. S. D. Ingham " " "
" " Gamble D. Wall " " 20
" " John Davis " " "
" C. Blackburn, Esq. " " 20
" F. A. Ewing " " " 20
" Peter D. Vroom & others
of the N. J. Delegation in Congress " " 22

Treasury Department
July 15. 1844.

Sir

I enclose herewith a specimen of ore which I will thank you to cause to be analyzed and the result reported to the Department. It is supposed to contain a portion of silver & perhaps gold

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servt
Sec. of the Treasury

R. M. Patterson
Director of the Mint
Philada.

Treasury Department
July 15. 1840.

Sir,

Your letter of the 11th. has been received. It is not likely, that much more American Gold will be wanted from the Mint very soon, altho it may be necessary to make some drafts on it for a sum in the course of the ensuing four months — If this should prevent the depositors from having part paid — they will, necessarily, be obliged to wait the usual time — though I trust all inconvenience may be alleviated by prompt remittances &c. I hope, that you will aid the Treasurer in completing, rapidly, his preparations to receive deposits — tho' I had supposed and still do so, that he would forthwith receive all deposits offered and keep them securely. His present clerk will answer until he finds that new ones are employed as very few drafts will be drawn on him at present. His vaults now in use must be amply sufficient for the small additional money. All the circular instructions to the Treasurer have been dispatched — and to give the law a fair chance for success we must all put our shoulders to the wheel with vigor and good will — In this view the Benefit of concurs in and though some difficulties must attend all changes, they can soon be overcome — in most cases —

Respectfully
Your Obed. Servt
Levi Woodbury
Sec. of the Treasury.

D. R. M. Patterson
Philad.

Mint, U. S.
July 15 / 41.

Sir,

Upon circulars to the Treasurer of the Mint and myself, regarding certain duties under the act "to provide for the collection, safe keeping, ~~and~~ transfer, and disbursement of the public revenue," we received by us this morning. In the former, I understand you to instruct the Treasurer to consult with me, as the officer having charge of the building in which his accommodations are to be provided, to the end that such distribution of the apartments may be made as will best facilitate the different branches of the public service therein carried on; and he is also "to confer with me as to the form of the vaults."

The Treasurer has accordingly conferred with me as to these matters, and he joins ~~with~~ me in the recommendations made in my letter to you of the 7th inst. They are 1st. To fit up as the Bullion room, the room now occupied as the office of the Chief Coiner, and which he has voluntarily consented to give up for this purpose. — In this room, there will be

wanted, desks, cases for books, a counter, and other furniture, and a wall must be torn down to give place for the counter, and room for persons having business without their being admitted behind the said counter. The cost I estimate at about $250.

2d. A small vault adjoining this office, to be taken off much by dividing a vault now occupied by the Chief coiner into the space, by a stone wall. A door-way must be broken into this vault, and an iron door procured to fasten it. — The cost of this change I estimate at $200.

3d. A large vault, in the basement of the building to be fitted up, and provided with an iron door. Estimated cost $150.

Thus the whole supposed cost of the changes necessary for the accommodation of the Assistant Treasurer at this place, is $600. I do not, however, include the books that may be required, which I cannot add much to the whole expense.

We await your authority to proceed with the proposed changes.

R. M. P.
J.

M. G. F. D.
S. C.

To Hon. Levi Woodbury
Sec. of Treas.

P. S. The Director was obliged to leave the Mint before this letter was copied. G. F. D.

Mint U. S.
July 14/ 48.

Sir,

A draft made on us yesterday, of $40,000 payable in gold coins, claims me for an excellent system of prompt payments. We have on hand only $48,395 in gold coins, so that we could not now pay for a ~~large~~ single large deposite of that metal. There is between 30,000 and 40,000 dollars worth of gold in transitu, though the operations of the Mint, are, if business continues with us, it is not likely to be much less. Let me pray, then, that, if any opportunity of increasing ~~the~~ our gold deposite presents itself to you, you will ~~not~~ write us to the former position not forget us.

We have, on hands of silver coins, $ 230,570, and about $90,000 worth of silver under operation.

The Collector of the Port sent to our Treasurer, yesterday, a sum of $35,000 (I think) to be placed with him as subtreasurer. He declined receiving it, known, on the ground that he had no instructions from the Department, and no office organized, no books, no clerk, and no vault. In fact the movement of Mr. Blythe was

certainly premature. On the receipt of your letter of the 8th. I put a stop to the preparations we had made for fitting up an office, vaults, &c. You had required a report on the matter to be made to you by the Treasurer of the Mint, after he should receive your instructions; and the law requires that none of the matters necessary for the accommodation and management of the Institution shall be made without your authority.

R. M. P.

Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

Mint U. S.
July 11/48.

Sir,

In answer to your letter of the 9th inst, I have to state that you can be furnished with any amount of cents you desire, in exchange for gold or silver coins, or for a draft payable in N. York, which is now equivalent here to gold & silver. The cents are forwarded by us free of expense. As they are put up in bags of $100 each, it is desirable that you have regard to this circumstance in your order.

Small silver coins are furnished by us only in exchange for bullion or foreign coins of the same metal, deposited at the Mint, and payment is made by us only at the Mint. The whole value is returned to the depositor, without charge for coinage.

R. M. P.
D

Wm. L. Campbell, Esq.
No. 15 Burling Slip, N. Y.

Treasury Department

July 11th 1840

Sir,

A transfer draft in favor of the Treasurer has been issued this day upon you and will be presented to you by the agent of that office. I will be obliged if you will pay the amount $40.000 in American Gold Coin, as it is intended to be used in payments to members who may call for their convenience.

I am Sir
very respectfully
your obt servt
Levi Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury

Wm Findlay Esq
Treasurer of the Mint
Phila

Mint of the United States,
July 13. 1845

Sir,

In reply to your communication of the 10th instant (received to day) I have to state, & beg leave to observe, that I am not able to identify the "Table of calculations for ascertaining the value of Gold Coins, by weight, agreeably to the act of June 1834" to which you refer, and which claims "to have been examined at the Mint, and approved." It is our practice to furnish Statements of the Mint Values of foreign Coins, as often as applied for; being, of course, possessed of the latest and best information on that subject. But I am not aware that any such Table as that above noticed, has been presented here for examination; the Assayers, within whose province it would fall, disclaim it. Indeed, none of us have seen any document of the sort.

Perhaps, upon The difficulty supposed in your letter can be readily explained. That Table, as it purports, was made in conformity to the Act of Congress of 1834, legalizing certain foreign gold coins, at specific rates per pennyweight. It has been well settled here, for some years past, that those rates are too high; and accordingly, I have repeatedly, in my reports to Congress, urged the propriety of repealing that law; but hitherto, without effect. - My Report of 2d April

last of which you speak, contains the actual Value of the coins therein specified, by weight. They would not yield more, if deposited at the Mint, for re-coinage; though for commercial and assimilated, by their deficiency of fineness, they do not come within the express condition of the Law, it is doubtful whether there is any obligation to receive them, at the rates therein declared.

The table to which you refer, therefore, has not the sanction of the Mint, nor can it be considered a safe guide. The Annual Report is itself a Table, containing all the information which you ask, though not extended, for the purpose of obtaining calculations. ~~We have prepared such Tables as deposites on foreign Coins are required, but find a calculation ready as easy as a reference in such case.~~

As our course of business includes an Assay, we do not purchase gold at certain ~~rates~~ prices, as it is presented at the counter; and of course, have no use for such Tables as you ask for. It is not likely that any have been published; but if there should be, it will give me pleasure to furnish you with a copy, agreeably to your request.

Very respectfully
your faithful servt.

Wm. Selden Esq
Treasurer of the U. States.

Treasury of the United States
10th July 1840

R. M. Patterson Esqr
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia

Sir

I have seen a Table of Calculations for ascertaining the value of Gold Coins, by weight, agreeably to the Act of June 1834. said to have been "examined at the Mint of the United States and approved". But on comparing it with your Assay of 2nd April last, as published in the Public Documents, I find the calculations have been made under a higher valuation per dwt, than is authorized in your Report referred to.

If you have such Tables, for facilitating the calculations of the value of gold Coins, made agreeably to your present Standard; or if not, and they can be obtained in your City, you will greatly oblige me by forwarding a Copy to this Office.

Very respectfully
Your Obt Servt
W. Selden
Treasurer of the United States

New York July 7 1840

To the Cashier of the United States Mint
at Philadelphia

Sir being engaged in a business
in which I purchase a retail I find
it very difficult to get change and in bank
-ing the foreign small coin I always loose the
half cent. in applying to grocers for cents they
will give but 96 for the dollar and thus I
am liable to imposition from the numerous
"shin plaster pennies" in the city which are often
given from the banks as well as individ-
-uals and what is more it often calls
me from my store in the bustle of trade
not knowing what other source to apply
to I have taken the liberty to address
as above and beg your reply affording
me this information viz if I could be
favoured with new coin of the denomina
-tion of One cent. from the mint also of
dimes & half dimes, in exchange for larger
coin of the United States and other Nations
in sums of from $100. to 250. your obedient
Servant John S. Campbell
No 15 Burling Slip

Please also state if the City Banks
of New York are receiving at what rate
also those of Philadelphia
Your Obedient Servant
I. J. C.

New York 9 July 1840

R. M. Patterson Esq
Philad.a

Dear Sir,

Your favor of 2.d inst. was duly received, and our object in the present is merely to return you our thanks for the full particulars which you have entered into in relation to our deposite of Silver bullion, and for the valuable information which your letter contains, all of which we have found very agreeable & satisfactory, and we remain

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servants

Newbold & Crupt

CIRCULAR

To each Naval Officer, each Register of a Land Office, Director and Superintendent of a Mint, and each Surveyor at those ports where there is a Collector, but not a Naval Officer.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *July* 9, 1840.

SIR: By the thirteenth section of the "Act to provide for the collection, safekeeping, transfer, and disbursement, of the public revenue," it is enacted:

"That, in addition to the examinations provided for in the last preceding section, and as a further guard over the public moneys, it shall be the duty of each Naval Officer and Surveyor, as a check upon the Receiver-general of public moneys, or Collector of the Customs, of their respective districts; of each Register of a Land Office, as a check upon the Receiver of his Land Office; and of the Director and Superintendent of each Mint and Branch Mint, when separate offices, as a check upon the Treasurers, respectively, of the said Mints, or the persons acting as such, at the close of each quarter of the year, and as much more frequently as they shall be directed by the Secretary of the Treasury to do so, to examine the books, accounts, returns, and money on hand, of the Receivers-general of public money, Collectors, Receivers, Receivers of Land Offices, Treasurers, and persons acting as such, and to make a full, accurate, and faithful return to the Treasury Department of their condition."

You will, therefore, at the close of each month, make a careful examination of the money in possession of the Receiver-general, Collector, Receiver of public lands, or Treasurer, with whom you are associated in public business, or whose office is in your District, and report to this Department the amount on hand in gold and silver coin and in bank notes; also, what portion is to the credit of disbursing officers, and what to the credit of the Treasurer of the United States; and what may be held to pay expenses chargeable on the accruing revenue, distinct from what he has to pay as fiscal agent of any Department of the Government.

You will report, also, the condition in which the money is kept and guarded, and the state of the books and papers of the office. You will suggest any improvement which may occur to you in the arrangement and business of the office, to the officer whose money and books you are required to examine; and if your suggestions shall not be attended to by him previous to the next inspection, you will state your views to the Treasury Department. You will, when convenient, make your report on the back of the monthly return of the Receiver, Collector, or Treasurer; and, when the Collector makes a weekly return, on the last one in the month. The special examinations which you or others may make, beside the periodical ones above required, will be made from time to time, under particular directions from this Department.

Any fees that may hereafter come into the hands of any Surveyor or Naval Officer beyond what the laws allow him to retain, he will hereafter deposite with the public depositary nearest to him; never, in any instance, suffering such surplus fees, when they shall amount to one hundred dollars or upward, to remain undeposited for a longer period than one week.

LEVI WOODBURY,
Secretary of the Treasury.

CIRCULAR

To each Collector, Receiver of Public Money for Lands, Receiver General, Treasurer of the Mint at Philadelphia, Treasurer of each Branch Mint, and Treasurer of the United States.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *July* 9, 1840.

A copy of the "Act to provide for the collection, safekeeping, transfer, and disbursement, of the public revenue," is herewith enclosed.

You will exercise great vigilance in the performance of the new duties it may devolve on you, without any omission of such as have been imposed and are still required by former laws and regulations.

The new instructions received in respect to the books you are to keep, and the returns you are to make, will be strictly conformed to. Any expenses necessary to be incurred under this act will be separated from others in your accounts, and cannot be allowed unless authority is previously obtained, on satisfactory reasons assigned to the Department. It is hoped the expenses will be few, and on the most economical scale.

As a depositary of the public money standing to the credit of the Treasurer of the United States, you will keep an account current with him, in which you will debit yourself with all sums received on his account, and credit yourself with all payments made by his order, and no other.

A weekly transcript of this account must be forwarded to the Department, in duplicate, one directed to the Secretary, the other to the Treasurer, which latter must be accompanied by the vouchers for the charges made therein.

Collectors of customs, designated collectors and receivers of public moneys at land offices, who may act as depositaries of the money collected or received by them only, should credit the Treasurer, weekly, with the surplus receipts of the week, after reserving sufficient to meet the current expenses of their offices. Moneys once reported to the Treasurer cannot afterward be used except in compliance with his drafts, or orders, either for transfer or the payment of warrants on the Treasurer issued under the authority of law.

The treasurer of the Mint, of the Branch Mint at New Orleans, the four receivers general, and such other depositaries as may be required to receive on deposite moneys not *collected* by them as collectors or receivers, should enter to the Treasurer's credit each sum deposited with or transferred to them, specifically, setting forth the date of the deposite, name of the party or parties making it, the object for which and the name of the party for whose credit it is made (which particulars must appear on the weekly transcripts), and, also, the kind of funds in which it is made.

Entries of Treasurer's drafts, when paid, should show the date of payment, number of draft, and number of warrant on which it was issued, or the designation "Transfer Draft," when of that character. The kind of money used in paying drafts must also be noted on your books, but not stated in the transcripts.

The principal book necessary to carry out these details is a ledger account current, which will serve also as a cash book; as auxiliary to this, particularly when the transactions are numerous, a day-book or blotter should be kept. It will be well, also, to keep a separate Register of Transfer Drafts.

The account current should be balanced at the close of each week, so as to correspond with the transcripts. They must be balanced at the close of each quarter, but the last weekly transcript of a quarter may be deferred should the quarter terminate in the middle of a week, so as to embrace the odd days, and the first transcript of a new quarter may, also, be deferred for a like purpose.

You will also keep separate books for your incidental expenses, whether they be made under general instructions, as expenses of collection, or from advances by the Treasury for that purpose; and a book for recording all letters from and to your office as a depository.

Be pleased to understand thoroughly this principle, that all money in your hands to the credit of the Treasurer is, in fact, money in the Treasury of the United States, and cannot be used for any other purpose than the payment of warrants (or the drafts thereon) issued in pursuance of appropriations by Congress; but these moneys may be *transferred* from one depository to any other depository, by direction of the Secretary of the Treasury, under the authority of the 10th section of the act.

Any further or more detailed instructions that may be necessary for any of you concerning the form of keeping these various books and accounts, or any others that may be found necessary, as well as the forms of the several returns to be made of your business, and the form of certificates or receipts to be given to patentees, marshals, and district attorneys, from whom you may be authorized to receive public money in deposite, will be prescribed by the First Comptroller of the Treasury, and communicated to you by some proper officer.

The 13th section of the act requires each naval officer, and surveyor of each port, where there is a naval officer and surveyor, and the register of each land office, to make a quarterly examination of the books, accounts, returns, and money on hand of the public depository with which he is connected, and to make such examinations as much more frequently as he may be directed so to do by the Secretary of the Treasury. The 12th section of the act authorizes me to make such examinations also, by special agents, as occasion may require. You will grant to the Surveyor of the port, the Naval Officer, or the Register of the Land Office, as the case may be, and to such special agents as may be appointed, every facility in your power for making such examinations, and will always keep your money, papers, and books, in readiness for it.

By the 19th section, provision is made as to the kind of money you may receive. To the requirements in that section you will, in all cases, conform; using great caution to avoid the receipt of money that is counterfeit, or the notes of banks not at par, or not convertible into specie on the spot, or not issued by institutions of high credit. In making payments in the capacity of disbursing agents, you are likewise required, by the 2d section of the act of Congress passed April 14, 1836, not to pay out any bank note under twenty dollars, and which is not redeemable in specie, and equivalent to it at the place where offered in payment. It is desirable that the notes received by you should, when acceptable to others in payment, be first paid out; and if, at the close of any quarter, an amount of them remain on hand over the sum of five thousand dollars, they should, for security, be converted into specie; and oftener, if loss is apprehended, or the specie is wanted to meet drafts you are liable to pay in specie.

For greater accuracy in receiving coin, it will generally be desirable, in very large sums, to weigh as well as count it; and for convenience and speed in making payments and examinations, to keep it sealed up and marked, in bags or boxes of a hundred and a thousand dollars each. It

may be well for the examiners to add their seal after their monthly examinations, to verify the amounts.

The receipt of Treasury notes in all public payments as heretofore provided by Congress, and then to be cancelled and remitted here, as required by former instructions, will still be continued when any debtors offer them in payment.

So you will receive, in the same way, any drafts drawn by the Treasurer on yourself, instead of the useless delay and trouble of counting out the money on such drafts and immediately receiving it back in payment.

In no instance will you permit any other than public money to be placed in the chest or vault in which that is kept; but such money belonging to disbursing officers you will safely keep, and return to them when required, under instructions issued by the Department to which those officers are attached.

By the 23d section of the act, it is made the duty of the Secretary of the Treasury "to issue and publish regulations to enforce the speedy presentation of all Government drafts for payment at the place where payable," &c.

All of you, except the Treasurer of the United States, will, therefore, at the end of each quarter, make out a list of the drafts that have been drawn on you by the said Treasurer previous to the beginning of the preceding quarter, and which, by the notices you have received from him, appear to have been outstanding, and not presented. That list you will forward to the Treasurer aforesaid, and afterward refrain from paying the said drafts when presented until he shall first be consulted, or shall first issue a new instruction for the payment thereof; and, to promote the seasonable presentment and settlement of said drafts, they shall be carried, by the Treasurer of the United States, to a separate suspense account, and, until a new order, be regarded as no longer chargeable on the depositary on which they were originally drawn, but be subject to payment, and be made payable there or elsewhere, as found convenient to the Treasurer, on subsequent application to him for that purpose by the holders of said drafts.

All other parts of the act relating to your duties will be strictly enforced by you, though not specially referred to in this circular. In cases of doubt, you will apply to the proper officers here for advice.

Further instructions, except those to particular classes of officers separately, it is considered unnecessary to give at this time. If you find any of these here given inconvenient in operation, or if you can suggest measures by which the ends of the law can be more easily obtained, I shall be very happy to hear from you on the subject.

Respectfully,

LEVI WOODBURY,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Treasury Department
July 8. 1840

Sir

Your letter of the 4th. has been received. Circular instructions are being prepared and will be sent to each of the depositaries under the new law in a few days - One will be addressed to the Treasurer of the Mint at Philad.a and a report required from him as to any additional accommodation he may need. It is hoped that they will not be expensive, and that not more than one additional clerk will be necessary, if any.

The payments into the Mint under the act will seldom be more than one a week - and the transfers nothing - and the drafts on the Mint by the Treasurer of the United States, will not, it is believed, average more than one a day.

What additional business as to deposits by disbursing officers deposits will be required, and where, is as yet uncertain, but it is not apprehended that it will be great at present.

Very Respectfully

Sec. of the Treasury

R. M. Patterson
Director of the Mint
Philad.a

Mint U. S.
July 7th, 1841.

Sir,

I have already told you how much
I was embarrassed to find accom-
modation at the Mint for the various
of the duties that would devolve upon us
~~Hunter~~ when the Independent Treasury
should be established. I have now
the pleasure to inform you that this
difficulty is in some degree removed by
an offer generously made by Mr. Beale
to give up his office and part of this
& his vaults for the purpose. I do
suppose him to consider it inconvenient,
but I hope that new arrangements on a
large scale, will be made hereafter, by
which the Chief Coiner may have his
proper accommodations restored to him.

The alterations, ~~proposed~~ will require
some expense, ~~and sometimes~~ for tearing
down and building up walls, - iron doors
for the small vault to be made adjoining
the Ass't Treasury Office, iron doors for a

large vault in the basement, furniture, &c. Some time must also be expended in these preparations for our new duties. I now write, therefore, to ask you authority to commence this work without delay. The President and the Department may be assured that every exertion shall be made by us ~~on our part~~ to have, to render our action under the new law efficient and acceptable to the public.

I hope you will not approve of the agency of foreign government functionaries. It really seems to me impossible that we should execute this task at the Mint. Gov. Pindley is exceedingly anxious on this point.

Until your specific instructions are received, I cannot form a judgment of the nature and amount of the duties to be performed by us under the new laws; I cannot, therefore, tell the number of clerks which will be required; I presume, however, that it will not be less than two, — a book-keeper and a teller.

To Hon. Louis Bradley, Sec. of Treasury.

R. M. P.
D. C.

Mint of the United States.
July 7th, 1840.

Sir,

In my letter of the 20th of June, I mentioned to you that Mr. Ingham had written to Judge Fox, to propose that he and other friends of Mr. Bouvet should accompany and make such advances as would pay the balance due by Mr. Bouvet, with a view to put a stop to legal proceedings against him; and I took the liberty of suggesting to you the propriety of deferring any further steps in this matter until a reply was received from Judge Fox.

I now deem it my duty to state that no reply to this proposition has been communicated to me. I understand that Judge Fox has been at Washington, and I presume that he has seen you, but I am quite ignorant as to the course which he proposes to take or to recommend. I have heard that he has stated that he found the Department embarrassed by ~~some~~ errors, real or supposed, in the Copper Account of a former Treasurer of the Mint, ~~which~~ which rendered the true

balance due on that account un certain. I know that some ~~diffe~~ difficulties were found in these accounts, which were partially removed, as they may be entirely so: but if it is important to remark that these difficulties have no bearing upon that in which Mr. Benoist is involved, which is simple, insulated, and easy of proof. The accusation is that ~~he received~~ moneys came into his hands, from time to time, during several years, from the sale of copper coins, the receipt of which he has acknowledged on the Comptroller's books, — in his own ~~account~~ rendered accounts, and orally during the investigations; — that it was his duty to deposite, in bank all these moneys, to the credit of the Treasurer of the United States; — and that he ~~had~~ withheld a part of these moneys, so as to give rise to a deficit, during the time that the agency was under his special charge, ~~&~~ exceeding $8000.

I presume that if this affair is to be prosecuted legally, the immediate management will be committed to our district attorney Mr. Read Esq. & that

cate I will take care to give him any information with regard to it.

P. M. G.
D. C.

To
M. Bouchard, Esq.
Solicitor of Treasury.

Mint of the United States,
July 7, 1840.

Sir,

The amount of gold remaining
uncoined at the Mint on the 31st of
May last, was ——————— $109.810.

Deposites in June:

Foreign Coins	$65,255.	
Foreign Bullion	9,425.	
U.S. Bullion	8,371.	
U.S. Coins, old Standard,	453.	83,504.
		$193,314.

Coinage in June:

In Eagles	$91,820.	
" Half eagles	16,770.	108,590.
Remaining uncoined, June 30, 1840 —		$84,724.

Very respectfully
&c &c.
R. M. P.
Director.

Hon. Levi Woodbury
Sec. of Treasury.

Mint of the United States.
July 2d, 1840.

Sir,

The difficulties mentioned in your letter of the 30th ult. can cannot be removed, as they have their origin in the very nature of trade. The relative values of gold and silver, in the market, can no more be fixed than the relative value of beef and corn. The laws may decree a ratio of value, but they cannot make both metals circulate at according to this decree. Such is now the case in France; such was long the case with us, and though the law and the market happen to ~~&~~ agree at present. The England, ~~coined~~ silver has an convulsion given to it, thus establishing a seigniorage on silver coin for the benefit of the government. The injustice of this, however, is a great degree removed, by the circumstance that silver is not made a legal tender except for sums under 40 Shillings.

Our ~~fear~~ of ~~gain~~taking for the pound sterling, which makes it equal to $4.44, is a pure fiction, having no authority from a comparison of the coins of the two countries,

either gold to gold, or silver to silver.—

As to England, I think the par of Exchange may be justly established on the gold currency alone, because gold alone is a legal tender in that country*; but, as to France, where by either both gold and silver are legal tenders,† the question is incapable of a definite answer. Still, as silver is, in practice, the circulating medium of both countries, it seems most reasonable that the par should be founded on the relative values of silver currencies. Regarding it in this view, the pound sterling should be valued at $4.84, and the franc at $0.186.

I regret that you are engaged, in the business of your office, to the difficulty of the par of exchange, for I think it to be an indisputable one†. Certainly, it cannot be removed by legislation.

R. M. P. Jr

Stephen Pleasonton, Esq.
Fifth Auditor

* and gold and silver coins both here, at present, at their relative legal values

† as to countries in either of which there are no legalized circulating mediums.

Mint of the United States,
July 2. 1845.

Gentlemen,

Your letter of yesterday is just received. I have made the necessary inquiries, respecting your deposite of silver bullion, of the 22d ult. & now have to state to you the following facts.

The silver was in five large bars or pigs, and evidently "white and perfect" as from the ~~cast~~ melting. They were however so rudely cast, and ~~there was a bumbly mould~~ so dirty, that we were obliged to re-melt them, previous to assay. This preliminary melting is never required at the Mint, except when the metal is in the rough state.- First, however, they were separately weighed, as taken from the boxes; and the sum total of their weight (as will appear upon the memorandum sent you) was 5740 $\frac{20}{100}$ ounces troy.

They were then melted, in two parcels. There was no appearance of a fraudulent introduction of other metals, such as we have sometimes discovered. In melting, they sustained a loss, equal to $\frac{1}{2}$ of one per cent; so that, when presented to the Assayer, their aggregate weight was 5711 $\frac{20}{100}$ ounces.

They were assayed, first by the dry, & then by the humid process; the latter confirming the former. There was no trace of gold.

The assay showed a fineness of 903 parts in a thousand, rather under the average quality of ~~mint~~ bar silver, but only by a trifling difference: that is, not more than the value of ~~½~~ one ~~half a~~ cent an ounce, ~~say~~ ~~a~~ from ~~a~~ eight cents per marc. – The base metal present in the mass was sufficient to render it somewhat brittle, so that a charge for toughening became necessary.

You perceive, then, that the loss cannot be accounted for, in any stage of the Mint processes. Indeed, had it lost nothing in melting & had it proved to be perfectly fine, (either supposition being, of course, out of the question) it could not have yielded, by a large difference, the sum charged in your invoice.

Allow me now to observe that the whole difficulty is explained by your invoice. You represent the weight to be 775 marcs 6 ozs. – Our Standard Castilian Marc is equivalent to 3554.5 troy grains, or 7.4052 troy ounces. – Sometime ago, we received a parcel of near 12,000 ounces of silver from Coquimbo (the port you mention) and upon comparing its invoice weight with ours, found the marc equal to 3554.3 grains; a remarkably close approximation to the Standard. Assuming the latter equivalent, I find that 775 marcs 6 ozs. should be equal to 5744.30 ozs. troy; that is a difference of only $4\frac{10}{100}$ ounces troy, between your invoice weight, and the Mint weight. Thus far, then, there was no error.

But, I perceive, you estimate the silver at $9.94 per marc. Now, had it been perfectly fine, it could not, at the Mint price, be worth more than $9.57; nor does silver in that shape, and from that region, ~~usually~~ average more than $\frac{9.44}{9.44}$; at least, it would not be safe to give more.

At a fineness of 903 thousandths, it is only worth $9.40; making no allowance for the necessary deductions ~~for~~ assaying and for alloy, ~~& which however~~ ~~do not materially reduce the value.~~

Let me remark again, that the Mint value (established by law) is as high as it can be at the Mints of South America, and even higher; because their dollars contain more silver than ours, by ⅛ to ¼ of one per cent. With the commercial value of fine silver we have nothing to do. We only know, that it cannot usually be higher than the Mint value, else there would not be so much of it sent here, to be converted into coin.

The deficit, then, is shown to be only in the over-valuation in the invoice; equal, in your case, to 54 cents per marc.

My remarks have ~~been~~ been thus minute, in the hope of ~~being~~ ~~also~~ ~~satisfactory~~ that they may be satisfactory, in the present instance, and of service, in future similar transactions.

Very respectfully
your faithful servt

Messrs Newbold & Croft
New York.

P.S. – A small mistake was made, by one of our Clerks, by estimating the cost of alloy from the gross instead of the Standard weight of your deposite. We adhere, however, to the Memorandum which I sent to you, making your claim $7224.48.

R. M. P.

New York 1 July 1840.

R. M. Patterson Esq
Philad.a

Dear Sir,

Your favor of yesterdays date inclosing a memorandum of the result of our deposite of five bars of Silver on 22.d ult.o is duly received, and the discrepancy is so great between the Mint value ($7224.48) and the value as expressed in our Invoice received from Coquimbo ($7709) that we are induced to send you a copy of this Invoice annexed, to which we respectfully ask your attention, & we beg as an especial favor that you will advise us as early as Convenient of your views as to the Cause of this great difference in value, whether the bars were entirely whole & perfect when taken from the boxes in which they were packed, and also may we ask of you the favor to have a revisal made of the addajaje, as it is possible an error may have been Committed.

We feel the more anxious in this matter

as the Silver is not on our own account, but belongs to another party, and trusting therefore you will excuse us for thus troubling you, we Remain

very Respectfully
Your Obt Servants
Newbold & Cruft

Copy

Invoice of Silver shipped on board the Barque "John a Robb", R Walker Master by & on account of Charles Emery & consigned by him to Messrs Newbold & Cruft for Sale & returns

▽ I	One Bar weighing	154 Marcs	3oz	2	
II	One "	" 154	" 3	3	
III	One "	" 157	" 7	4	
IV	One "	" 152	" 6	1	
V	One "	" 157	" 3	5	
		Marcs 775	" 6oz @ $9.94 p Marc		
	775 Marcs 6oz Silver @ $9.94 the Marc of 8oz Avoirdupois				7709 00

Coquimbo March 14. 1840
Signed Charles Emery

Treasury Department
5th Auditor's Office
June 30th 1840

Sir

I have the pleasure duly to receive your letter of the 27th instant, giving me the par value in dollars of the monies of several Countries of Europe with which we have intercourse, and which I had requested of you by my letter of the 22d inst. For this information be pleased to accept my thanks.

There is a great difficulty, if not an impossibility, in fixing the par of exchange by law, between our dollars and the gold and silver money of other Countries. For instance, the Sovereign of England which is a pound Sterling, is worth $4.84, whilst four English Silver Crowns of 5 Shillings value each, being a pound Sterling, are only worth in dollars $4.40. What is the cause of this? Why are not 4 English Crowns equal in value to one Sovereign? One would suppose they would make the Crowns of such weight as to be worth five shillings in gold

golds and yet it is evidently not so. So in re-
-gard to France and several other Countries,
their gold money is to at premiums over silver.

Our par of Exchange with England, as
fixed by law is now 4.44. As almost all pay-
-ments in England are made in Golds and all our
Commercial transactions have reference to such pay-
-ments, our par is evidently too low by 44 cents in
the pound Sterling; and yet as persons in England
have it in their power to pay bills of Exchange with
silver Crowns the payments would be made with
what is equal only to 4.40 of our dollars.

The Bankers at Paris state that
the par of a pound Sterling, in Francs, is 25 20/100
francs, equal to $4.72 whilst our par of 4.44
would be equal only to 23 70/100. The difference
I am obliged to consider a gain and to charge
our Agents with it.

I should be very happy to pos-
-ess your opinions as to the true par, both in
regard to England & France. The par being
fixed, it will always be in our power to as-
-certain when the Exchange may be above or
below it, and be enabled to settle the accounts
of our Agents abroad, more satisfactorily.

A law of the United States, a few
years ago, fixed the par with England, in
relation to duties at the Custom House, at
$ 4 80/100 but left the real par untouched, as re-
-lated to our accounts generally.

I have the honor to be,
Sir, Very Respectfully,
Your Obt Servt
S Reasonton

Robert M. Patterson, Esqr
Director of the Mint,
Philadelphia.

The Officers and all persons employed in the United States Mint are respectfully invited to attend the Funeral of William Kneass from his late residence in Lombard Street above ninth, on Sunday the 30th. inst at 8 o'clock A.M.

August 29th 1840

Mint U. S.
Aug.t 29th, 1840

Sir,

In your circular of the 9th ult. addressed to the Examining officers of the Subtreasury, they are instructed to make their examinations monthly. When the return of the Subtreasury is thus monthly, the report of the Examiner is to be endorsed upon it; and, (it is added,) "when the Collector makes a weekly return, on the last one in the month."

In my report made on the 3d inst, I considered this last instruction as applying fully, in its spirit at least, to the case of the Mint, since it in my judgment presents, the most convenient and satisfactory mode of uniting my report of the condition of the vaults & coinage with the state of the accounts. My interpretation of your instructions is doubtless by the Treasurer of the Mint, who has their letter on his desk when he considers this application to be only to Collectors of the Customs. We have already given you trouble by a too literal interpretation of one of your instructions, and I should be sorry to commit the same fault again. I will therefore merely state, that I shall, as in the last case, present my monthly report of the condition

of the Settlements; or that Quarterly return of the Treasurer which includes in it the last day of the month, unless you judge this course to be unsatisfactory, and instruct me to adopt a different one.

R. M. P.

To/
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

Mint U. S.
Aug. 28, 1840.

Sir,

Your "letter" of the 22d inst, and the package of foreign coins transmitted therewith, were duly received, and the amount was, in compliance with your instructions, deposited in the Subtreasury, — the entry in the Blotter being as follows:

"Received, (Aug. 25th,) $50.96, the value of foreign coins directed by the Secretary of the Treasury to be deposited to the credit of the Treasurer of the United States, as a receipt from the Customs."

This item will, of course, enter into the weekly transcript to be sent to the Treasurer of the U. S. to-morrow.

R. M. P.

Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

Navt. N. S.
Aug. 28 1841.

Sir,

I send inclosed a copy of a letter to the President, announcing the death of Asst. Surgeon Rowald, the Surgeon of the Hecate, and recommending the appointment, in his place, of the present Asst. Surgeon, Wm. Pritchett. I also advise, that, in this case, the place of Assistant Surgeon be not supplied. The whole duties can now be performed by the Surgeon, with the aid of an able Mate, Mr. Sanderson, already in our employment; and as the expense of the Naval establishment, including the Branches, are greatly disproportioned to the work done, I am of opinion it is desirable to effect even a reduction of $1500 per annum.

R. M. P.

The Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

Mint of the U. S.,
Aug. 26. 1840.

Sir,

Your letter of the 21st inst. was received by me this morning, with the annexed Check for One Hundred & fifty dollars, for which cents to the same amount will be forwarded to you without delay.

I regret that our regulations do not permit us to furnish coins of silver or gold, except in return for bullion or foreign coins of the same metal deposited at the Mint. By the aid of an agent here, however, your object as to small silver coins could be readily accomplished.

Very respectfully,

R. M. P.
Director.

(To)
Wm. V. S. Mercer, Esq.,
Cash^r. Seneca C. Bank,
Waterloo, N.Y.

Treasury Department
22. August 1840.

Sir,

I transmit to you, by this day's Mail, a package containing seven gold and fifty five silver and copper coins, the value of which please deposite with the Treasurer of the Mint to the credit of the Treasurer US. as a receipt from Customs.

Those coins are duplicates of some obtained some years since by the Department, in order to ascertain the value of foreign coins and were paid for out of the accruing revenue.

I am very respectfully
Your obt. Servt.
Levi Woodbury
Secry of the Treasy

R. M. Patterson, Esq.
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia

Seneca Co Bank
Waterloo Augt 21. 1840

R. M. Patterson Esq
Director U. S Mint

Dr Sir

Annexed I hand you my draft on New York for One Hundred fifty Dollars to pay for a like Amount of Cents to be forwarded to me at your earliest Convenience on your usual terms. Can I procure at the Mint, for my draft on New York, two to three hundred Dollars in Small Silver Coin to be forwarded to me with the Cents?

Your obt Servt
Wm P. Mercer

address: Wm P. Mercer
Cash Seneca Co BK
Waterloo NY

Mint U. S.
Aug. 22. 1840.

Sir,

I have received the following Treasury draft payable to my order by the Treasurer of the U. S. Mint, Philadª

Draft 306. on Ty. Warrt. 5634 ——— $1000.

This draft having been drawn in my favour by mistake, I have, under instructions from the Secretary of the Treasury of the 20th inst., endorsed it to the Order of the Treasurer of the Mint, who has also endorsed it, and will return it to-day among his vouchers as Subtreasurer.

Jam, Sir, yr. Obt. Servt.
(signed) R. M. P.

William Selden, Esq.
Treasr. U. States.

Treasury Department
August 20th 1840.

Sir.

The draft sent to you for $1000. was drawn in your favor through mistake, and to correct it, I have to request that the Treasurer of the Mint endorse it, and have it returned here, when it will be attended and the warrant made to correspond.

I am Sir
Very Respectfully
Your ob. Servt
Levi Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury

R. M. Patterson Esqr
Director.
Mint.

Mint U. S.
Aug. 19/40.

Sir,

I received from you this morning a Treasury draft, on the settlements at the Mint, for $1000, drawn to my order, with a form of receipt for me to return. — I take the liberty to delay using this draft, until I can learn from you whether it is not by mistake that my name is introduced into it. ~~draft~~ warrant. On the 14th inst. I wrote to the Secretary of the Treasury to request that he "would issue his warrant in favor of the Treasurer of the Mint, for one thousand dollars, under the appropriation, of the present year, for the purchase of specimens of ores and coins." If it is, (as I must presume) in answer to this requisition that the draft is issued, it would seem that it must be by mistake that it is drawn in my favor. I suppose, indeed, that this circumstance would make me accountable to the Department for the amount, whereas this accountability is by law placed with the Treasurer of the Mint.

It occurs to me as possible that the form of the draft may have been used to avoid the apparent anomaly of drawing on

the trustees of the Mint in his own name. — This, however, has occurred before; and, at present, he is acting in two capacities which it is desirable to distinguish. We have adopted here, for the new office, the title "Treasurer of the Mint, (acting as Subtreasurer.)"

R. M. P.

Jr

Wm. Selden, Esq.
Treasurer of the U. S.

Mint. Letters Sent
Treasurer M. P.
Aug. 19. 1840.

TREASURY OF THE UNITED STATES.

17 August 1840.

Sir:

Enclosed you will receive One Treasury Draft made payable to your order, together with a descriptive list of the same, combined with a receipt therefor, which you will please to sign and return to this office, by return of mail.

I am, respectfully,

Sir, your obedient servant,

WM. SELDEN,
Treasurer of the United States.

R. M. Patterson Esqr

Mint Office
Aug. 14, 1840.

Sir,

I have the honor to request that you will issue your warrant in favor of the Treasurer of the Mint, for One thousand dollars, ($1000.) under the appropriation, of the present year, for the purchase of Specimens of Ores and Coins.

R. M. C.
J

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treas.

Treasury Department,
First Comptroller's office:
August 14: 1840.-

Sir:-

At the instance of the Secretary of the Treasury, I inclose you a copy of the report made on yesterday with respect to the subject of your letter of the 10th instant, which you were informed had been referred to this office.-

I am very respectfully,
Your obt Servt:
J M Clark
Acting Comptroller.

R. M. Patterson Esq.
Director of the U. Mint:
Philadelphia.

Mint of the United States.
August 28th, 1841.

Sir,

It has become my painful duty to announce to you the death of Mr. William Kneass, Engraver of the Mint. This event occurred last night, after an illness under which he long suffered, and which has, for some months, disabled him from performing the duties of his office.

Mr. Kneass was appointed Engraver of the Mint in January 1824, and, during the long period of his service, filled his station with great fidelity, and endeared himself to his fellow-officers by his uniform cheerfulness and amiability. His loss will be much and long regretted by every one connected with the institution.

I recommend, very respectfully but without hesitation, that the vacant office should be supplied by the appointment of Christian F. Gobrecht, who is at present Assistant Engraver, and has filled this place for four years. Mr.

Jobrecht is an ~~artist~~ artist of great skill and industry, and, in consequence of the low state of health of Mr Kneass, has, for a long time, performed nearly all the duties of Engraver. His personal character is altogether unexceptionable.

If this appointment be made, I think it will not be necessary or expedient to supply the place of Assistant Engraver, — as the improvements in the mechanical means of multiplying dies have greatly diminished the labor formerly required of the Engraver.

I am the honor to be, Sir,
with great respect,
your faithful servant,
R. M. Patterson,
Director of the Mint.

To
The President
of the United States.

(Copy)

Treasury Department
First Comptroller's Office
August 13. 1840.

Sir

In conformity with your reference for explanation of the inclosed letter, with accompanying forms submitted by the Director of the U.S. Mint (Dr Patterson) I have the honor to observe that the papers emanating from the Office of the Treasurer will shew that the discrepancy complained of has resulted from mere misapprehension and that the Transposition of the Caption in the form of the Legers from "Dr Treasurer of the Mint &c" to "Dr Treasurer of the U States" will not only produce correspondence between it and the form of the weekly transcripts prescribed as necessary and which appears to have been admitted to be consistent with usage, but likewise preserve to the Mint the use of the Books which have been obtained.

Among the forms submitted is that of a "Register of Drafts", in reference to which I beg to add that on a careful examination of the Circulars issued I am not able to discover that any such Book has been required to be prepared or kept. This Book it will be perceived if continued would contain nothing more than the substantial reiteration of the entries of drafts & payments on the day book

or blotter, which is noted as "auxiliary" to the Ledger Accounts Current in the Circular of July 9 paragraph 9. and is therefore deemed entirely useless. At the same time though, it should be remarked, a "Separate Registry" is indicated to be necessary and proper - not however of ordinary, but Transfer drafts: the distinction between which descriptions of drafts obviously follows the suggestion that the ordinary drafts is intended to effect an actual payment while the Transfer drafts merely designs rendering public money on deposite at one spot available at another. It may nevertheless appear that the additional form is mistaken as the one necessary for outstanding drafts - yet that should rather be called a "Registry of Notices". Should this ~~interpretation~~ interpretation be well founded I would observe that it was deemed unnecessary to prescribe any form, such Book being expected to follow and contain the particulars contained in the notice itself issuing from the Office of the Treasurer of the US in regard to drafts not duly presented and remaining unpaid; and the suggestion with the views of promoting the convenience of the Sub-Treasurers that such notices be entered according to date was at the time the whole matter was under consideration supposed to be quite sufficient. —

The language of the Circular from this Office of July 31 on the points is. "a facility will be attained in carrying out the direction of paragraph 21 (Circular July 9) relative to outstanding drafts, by registering the notices of such drafts received from the Treasurer of the US in chronological order and checking them off promptly when paid. Cap paper it is presumed, will contain Columns enough for date, number of drafts, number of Warrants, name and amounts. —

I have the honor to be
With great respect
Your Obt Servt
(signed) J.M. Burke
Acting Comptroller

Hon: Levi Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury

The difficulty suggested by Mr Patterson is not of so much importance as to require the loss of the books prepared at the Mint, it being a point of form only, depending upon a transposition of the Caption of the A/C Current. It has grown out of a difference of construction put upon the 4th paragraph of the Circular of 9th June — "you will keep an A/C current with them, in which you will debit yourself &c."

In this, the principal idea is, that A. is to keep an A/C Current with B. — and according to all usage — the Caption of the A/C would be — "Dr. — B. in A/C current with A. Cr." — A. as effectually debits himself by crediting B. as if the order of the parties in the Caption was transposed, and the item was entered under the Dr. of the Caption. — But the use of the term — "in which you will debit yourself &c." — has been taken by Mr Findly to convey an instruction to reverse common usage, which was not intended — and to adopt as a principal idea, that A was to appear as a debtor, directly &c on the Dr. side of the account. — All this however, is matter of form only, which does not affect the liabilities of the parties, and the misapprehension is to be regretted only, because uniformity is desirable in all the accounts. We have received returns from Mr Findly, transcripts from his Ledger which we have used without

respectively; though they conform directly with our accounts whereas the instructions are, that they should conform by transposition of sides. The 4th paragraph would certainly have been more explicit if "Credit Rem" had been used instead of "Debit yourself" and "Credit yourself" as therein contained. but that and other paragraphs were drawn up amidst the interruptions & confusion of servants business & without leisure for proper revision. — Mr Fenby has also misapprehended the 7 & 8th Sections of said Circular. first in supposing that the 7th requires the Kind of funds received on deposits, to be noted upon the returns to the Treasurer; whereas, that paragraph, enumerates certain details to be observed in making entries to the Treasurer's credit upon the Books of Receiver General, and, parenthetically, prescribes a portion of them, to be entered on the returns — And Second, that the 8th paragraph, requires the date of the draft and the name of the Payee, to be entered on the Ledger & the returns. These two particulars may be appropriately noted on the Blotter, but may encumber the Ledger & Returns, unnecessarily. —

It appears from one of the enclosing in the Form, that Mr Fenby has fallen into the error of supposing, Treasury Notes when received by them in payment to the Government are to be exhibited in the Treasurers Cash as other than money. They must appear as Cash, but

but especially as specified to the Payments of the Warrants to be issued in their favor for their re-imbursement. — They must appear upon our accounts as Money — otherwise they cannot be covered into the Treasury to the credit of the Party depositing them — but they are not like other money which may be used for general purposes. —

It will be well

then, should Treasury Notes be thus received, and included in the Weekly balance, to have this amount specifically stated, that we may guard against over drafts. —

Mint of the United States,
Director's Office, August 17. 1840

Sir,

~~You are aware that~~ The system of checks, by which the operations in your Department are now, it appears to me, to be generally, so effectually guarded, is still incomplete ~~in respect with regard to some of the particulars~~ as to the primary transactions, in accounting for bullion deposited for coinage. — For instance, it is possible for the Weigher to err, in stating the weight after melting or deduction, in the Weigh Book. It is possible for the Clerk who reports the deposite to the Assayer, to err in some particular, say the name, date, number, description, or weight; ~~or the blanks~~ or by inadvertency to make use of a printed blank for gold instead of silver, & vice versa, ~~for the two kinds of precious metal, may be used~~ interchangeably, and so beget confusion. And it is possible for a serious error to go out of the Mint, and get beyond the reach of the correction, so far as the depositor is concerned; though a correction is this mistake must eventually be detected, when a delivery comes to be made to the Melter and Refiner. ~~Now the propriety of employing the check of a revision~~ These contingencies, so that one clerk may always have his work supervised by another, in the cases mentioned. ~~Now this only~~ I state the deficiency, to show the obvious remedy. ~~This~~ There should be a more equable division of labour and responsibility, in this highly important part of the Mint transactions.

I therefore ask your attention to the following propositions; which, if they meet your views, will be considered as established Regulations, and objected accordingly.

There will be no alteration in the present routine, until the report of a deposite is about to be sent up to the Assayer. At that stage, Mr. Hutchinson will hand the report, and the Weigh-Book from which it is taken, to Mr. Edelman; for review; in which he will correct all errors. Mr. Edelman will have two objects. First, he will ascertain that there is no error in the statement of weight after melting. To do this he will not be guided by a recent weighing, but by reference to the following Schedule or Estimate, which was carefully prepared by the Assayer of the Mint, and sent to the Branch Mints for their guidance. It states the Ordinary, and the Extreme Losses, which are to be looked for, in the respective cases. When the loss is more than Ordinary, Mr. Edelman will satisfy himself as to the propriety of it, by inquiry; and, if not confirmed by after the cake to which it belongs has been melted, he will adjust it to that limit; Treasurer, for adjustment.

Gold

Description.	Loss on a weight of 5 ozs. to 20 ozs.		Loss on a weight of 20 ozs. to 100 ozs.		Loss on a weight of 100 ozs. to 500 ozs.	
	Ordinary	Extreme	Ordinary	Extreme	Ordinary	Extreme
Clean bars, lumps & Cakes	.01	.02	.01	.05	.03	.25
Coins	.01	.02	.01	.08	.03	.15
Jewelry, Plate & Sawings of Gold	.01	.02	.01	.05	.03	.25
Grains, Dust, & Amalgam	Irregular & uncertain.					

Silver

Description.	Deduction, if not melted	Ordinary loss in Melting.	Extreme Loss in Melting.
Coins	.865 per 1000 ozs.	1/4 th of 1 per cent.	1/4 th of 1 per cent.
Bars, Rigs, & Test-Melting, Clean	1/2 th of 1 per cent.	1/2 th of 1 per cent.	1/2 th of 1 per cent.
The Same, not Clean	Must be melted	1/2 th of 1 per cent.	1/2 of 1 per cent.
Jewelry & plate	Must be melted	1/2 th of 1 per Cent.	1/2 of 1 per cent.
Amalgam, or Plate-pina	Must be melted	2 to 5 per Cent.	5 to 10 per Cent.

Notes. — [a] Clean bars and cakes of gold are sometimes melted without any loss, and when a single bar or cake is presented, which has been well melted, it is usually assayed at once, and, of course, returned without loss.

[b] Gold Coins (as well as Silver) of a known & uniform fineness, are occasionally returned without melting. In such case, a deduction is made for dirt & dust, equivalent to 1/10 ths of an ounce on 1000 ounces of gold.

[c] The fraction .865 is an arithmetical refinement, to correspond with our more usual mode of expression, viz: 3/4 of an ounce on 1000 Spanish or Mexican dollars; as these are chiefly the coins subjected to this rule.

By the use of the foregoing Statement, combined with such information as is to be gathered from an examination of past entries in the Melt-Books, Mr. Edelman will be competent to discharge the duty here assigned, so far as to prevent any serious error, and greatly to relieve Mr. Sprague from a responsibility, which at present is undue.

The ~~not~~ other object of this revision will be to detect any error or omission in the transcript of the entries about to be sent to the Assayer: This having been done, the paper will be handed to that officer. Upon his report the calculations made in his office will be tested by Mr Hutchinson; and the deductions, if any, will be calculated by Mr Hutchinson; and passed by Mr Edelman. The Warrant will then be made out & the deposits registered by Mr Hutchinson. The Memorandum will be made by Mr Edelman, and revised by Mr Hutchinson, to see that it corresponds with the Assayers Report, and is complete for all the purposes intended by it.

I am not aware that any further check is needed, in your bullion transactions, but will be glad to receive any suggestions to that effect.

~~It is very desirable that the~~ Should ~~not further observe that the present~~ arrangements of your office ~~do not~~ secure a prompt attention to depositors, at all hours ~~in every part of the~~ at all hours, between nine and four o'clock. The Weigher is absent from two to three o'clock, having no one to perform his duties in that interval. I suggest therefore that Mr Edelman should not be instructed on the use of the beams for that purpose, and that your three clerks should so adjust their dinner hour, as to leave severally, at one, two, and three o'clock; the first returning at two, the second at three; the third not to be under a necessity of coming back, except for pass of business. By this arrangement, there will be always two clerks in attendance, and every delay avoided.

With ~~the~~ clerks will then have ~~the~~ their respective spaces of duty definitely marked out. I am sure that the good feeling which has heretofore been manifested amongst them, will prompt them to assist and interchange with each other as all ~~extra~~ emergencies may require; without a punctilious a regard or punctilious resting upon their settled limits. And I would prefer, that this communication be made known to them, with a view to obtain any objections before its contents become made a matter of fixed Regulation.

You will observe, that in all the routine of business, as now conducted, no alteration is proposed, but what is above distinctly stated.

Truly yours &C

Treasury Department
Aug 12th 1840

Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst with its enclosures.

I am unable to perceive any occasion to throw aside the books you refer to, because in any view, the circular and the laws are substantially the same. The directions of the circular requiring the Treasurer of the mint to enter the sums received to the credit of the Treasurer of the U.S. If he debits himself it seems to be the same thing in substance. The degree of exactness in this respect, seems to be merely an arbitrary matter, and may be made with more or less difficulty. If Gov. Findlay finds any serious difficulty they will be obviated by his addressing the Comptroller.

The paragraphs of the circular, to which you refer, cannot by direct, that the details of the kind of coining to should not be stated in the Weekly Transcripts, but must be entered upon your books. I do not see how it is possible to misunderstand them by any fair construction.

It strikes me, that the Treasury notes received in payment should appear in the Returns as Cash in order that they may be reimbursed by Warrant in favor of the officer sending them here. They cannot be employed in payment by the receiving officer, but should appear on the weekly transcript specifically stated.

I have referred your letter and its enclosures to the Comptroller, who will furnish yourself or Mr Findlay with any further formal explanations you may desire.

I am, Sir,
very respectfully
your obed. Svt

Robt Patterson Esq
Director of the Mint
Phila

Mint U.S.

Aug. 10 / 40

Sir,

We have received, this morning, from the First Comptroller's Office, a circular, under date of the 31st of July, which has thrown our Settlements into some confusion, and subjected us to some pecuniary loss.

In your instructions to the Treasurer of the Mint, of the 9th ulto, you say — "You will keep an account current with him," [the Treasurer of the U.S.] "in which you will debit yourself with all sums received on his account, and credit yourself with all payments made by his order, and no other."

This order is so explicit, that Gov. Findlay felt bound to follow it. We knew, indeed, that it was not according to ~~the usual form~~ ordinary of mercantile usage, but we supposed it was adopted because it would correspond with the account likely to be kept at Washington. ~~We therefore had our books and blanks prepared~~ We therefore had our books and blanks prepared accordingly, and the ~~instructions~~ circular now received renders them useless. — (paragraphs 7 & 8.)

Your instructions of the 9th ulto, require particular details to be introduced into our account with the Treasurer of the U.S., including the kind of funds received and paid; and it is ~~said~~ added

"the principal book necessary to carry out these details is a Ledger account current, which will serve also as a Cash book." I send a sheet of the form adopted by us under these instructions, having merely altered the titles as was required by the Banker's circular. This form is convenient, and comprehends all the information desired. We pray, however, now, to adopt & use it without the approbation of the Department.

I send, likewise, for approbation, the form which we had adopted for the register of drafts.

We shall use, after this time, the form of weekly transcript prescribed by the Comptroller. It will be a true copy from the Ledger, except that it will not distinguish the kinds of money received and paid.

R. M. P.
J.

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Tr.

Mint of the United States,
Aug. 8, 1840.

Sir,

The amount of gold remaining
uncoined at the Mint on the 30 of June
last, was $84,724.

Deposites in July:

Foreign Coins	$25,391.	
Foreign Bullion	8,556.	
U. S. Bullion	27,557.	
U. S. Coins, former Stand^{d}.	× 442.	61,946.
		$146,670

Coinage in July:

In Eagles	$48,750
Remaining uncoined, July 31, 1840,	$97,920

R. M. P.

To/
Hon. Levi Woodbury
Sec of Treasury.

Mint of the United States,
Philadelphia, August 7. 1840.

Sir,

Your letters of July 25th and December 2d (1839) although a good while on their journey, were safely received, together with the specimen coins therein referred to. They would have been acknowledged earlier, but that I was waiting to comply with your request for specimens of our coinage, ~~so as to~~ to accompany those of the present year. The series of 1840 has but lately been completed, as we have been introducing some modifications of design and dimension, which caused unavoidable delay.

I have this day caused to be sealed up for you, a Casket containing

In gold,	One Eagle,	(value ten dollars)	
" "	One Quarter Eagle	(value 2½ dollars)	
In Silver,	One dollar,		
" "	Two half dollars,		
" "	One quarter dollar,		
" "	Three dimes,	(or one-tenth of a dollar)	
" "	Two half-dimes.		
In Copper,	One cent	(or $\frac{1}{100}$th of a dollar)	
" "	One half cent.	Total,	26 Dolls. 15. 16½

The gold and silver coins are all of the standard fineness of $\frac{9}{10}$ the same as the French, and the new Standard of florins in Germany. The weight of the eagle is 258 troy grains;

dollar, 412½ grains; the smaller coins being in proportion. (The French gramme, I may here remark, is equal to 15$\frac{435}{1000}$ troy grains.) The present standards of our coins, were fixed by a general Mint law, enacted January 18th, 1837.

I have endeavoured so to adjust the amount, as to meet your bill of Rixd. 21-14-2, which I believe to be its equivalent, or very nearly so, ~~in Dollars & cts~~. In doing so, I was obliged to omit the half eagle, of five dollars; but which is conformed in its standards and devices to the other gold coins. - The casket, you will perceive, was not intended for this series, but having it on hand, I have thought it would answer the purpose of a packing box, as well as any thing else.

The coins will be addressed to you, and put in the care of Mr. D. Evans, merchant of this city, who is named by you as your correspondent, and who has kindly offered ~~his assistance~~ to forward them.

Nothing remains but to express my cordial thanks to you for the prompt and satisfactory manner in which you have fulfilled my requests. The specimens are particularly fine, and carefully arranged; and the information which you have taken so much pains to furnish, in the accompanying communications, is precisely such as we have desired to obtain.

I am very respectfully
your faithful Servt.
R. M. P.

Dr. T. G. Flügel
U. S. Consul at Leipsic
Saxony.

Mint of the United States,
Philadelphia, August 7. 1840

Dear Sir,

On the 9th July last, I had the pleasure of receiving your letter of the 5th May, advising me of the transmission of Specimen Coins of Turkey, Egypt, and Persia, for the Mint of the United States. — I have now the additional gratification, of acknowledging the receipt of the coins, in fine order, together with your communication of April 1st, containing ample and ~~valuable~~ interesting details in regard to them.

The procuring and arranging of this valuable casket must have given you no small pains; insomuch that the expression of my thanks, cordial as it is, seems a very inadequate return for your trouble, and for the generous manner in which it has been bestowed. — Perhaps it will be some satisfaction to you to know, that a part of the specimens will be displayed in a National Cabinet of Coins, now forming at the Mint; and that the remainder will afford us an opportunity of testing their intrinsic value by assay; which, with the ~~instructions~~ information derived from you, will ~~put us in better information~~ 2nd us for better acquaintance with the subject than we have ever yet been able to attain.

Your draft for $47.81½ will be promptly honoured, when

presented.

I am very respectfully
your faithful serv^t &c
[illegible]

John P. Brown.
Dragoman,
Legation of the United States
at Constantinople.

P.S. ~~As it is possible that~~ Allow me, as an officer of the American Philosophical Society, to say how much we were gratified by the interesting collection of coins ~~sent~~ presented by you to that institution, and for which, I presume, the Secretaries ~~will~~ have sent you an official acknowledgment.

Treasury Department
August 7th 1840

Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 5th inst. I believe no disbursing officer has yet been instructed to deposite with the Treasurer of the Mint. As I informed Gov Findlay when here, I doubt whether any such general instructions will be given - at least until some of the provisions of the existing laws shall be repealed by Congress.

As to the use of Eagles in general circulation I have already expressed a desire that when practicable that description of Coinage may be increased.

I am
very respectfully
your obd Serv
Levi Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury

R. M. Patterson Esq
Director of the Mint
Phila

Mint U. S.
Aug. 7. 1840.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 5th inst., with the accompanying communication and collection of coins sent by the U. S. Consul at ~~Leipsic~~ Vienna. Mr. Schwarz's letter to you is returned. His bill will be paid by us according to his instructions.

Very respectfully

R. M. P.

Dr.

To/
Hon. Levi Woodbury
Sec. of Treasury

Mint of the United States
Aug 5th, 1840.

Sir,

Of the deposits made by you, in the Intercourse at the Mint, during the last month, there was the amount of $1344 in Spanish quarter dollars, much worn, but still pretty fair specimens of that coin circulating. By order instructions from the Secretary of the Treasury these are applied, from the Mint, only by U.S. coins, and they have been found to yield but $1268.50, the loss being $75.34, or nearly a small fraction of 6 per cent. This fact will show you that such coins are not a legal tender, and I would therefore beg you respectfully suggest to you the propriety of refusing them hereafter, in payments made to the custom house. If you deem it expedient to receive them by weight, you will please to observe that 863 ounces will be the proper equivalent for $1000 of our money, care being taken to avoid counterfeit pieces. The same remark applies to Mexican dollars; but

I believe it will be generally safe to receive them by mail.

P. M. P.
J.

To/
Calvin Blythe, Esq.,
Collector of the Port,
Philadelphia

Mint of the United States.
Aug. 5th, 1840.

Sir,

In your instructions to the Treasurer of the Mint, (acting as Subtreasurer,) dated July 9th, there is the following paragraph:—

"In no instance will you permit any other than public money to be placed in the chest or vault in which that is placed; but such money belonging to disbursing officers you will safely keep, and return to them when required, under instructions issued by the Department to which those officers are attached."

A difficulty has arisen as to the true interpretation of this ~~subsection~~ paragraph. We understand it to mean that ~~the~~ any sum ✗ drawn for by the Treasurer of the United States in favor of a disbursing officer is to be kept by us as long as he shall desire, and ~~not paid~~ returned to him, when ~~future~~ he requires it. Another interpretation has been urged, which is that the payments are to be made on orders ~~from th~~ or checks from the disbursing officer as such payments are required. This would convert the subtreasury into a bank, and would throw upon us the burthen of making all the petty payments of the disbursing officers. With a single clerk,

and duties enough already to occupy them fully, this would be impossible. I hope, therefore, that such instructions may not be issued as will require this additional duty of us. One of its evils would be a complication of our accounts. Since payments of Treasury drafts would either be made in fact, and our system of vouchers be confounded; or else, a running account must be opened with each disbursing officer.

Now I freely acknowledge, that to carry out, in full, the subtreasury system, it ought to be, as to disbursing officers, a bank of deposits, on which they might check for such sums as they require, from time to time. The only objection to this course is its impracticability under the present inadequate organization of the Subtreasury. If we had a receiving and a paying teller, and one or more book-keepers, and if we had room for such a corps of clerks, instead of an office of fifteen feet square borrowed from the Chief Coiner, the proposed duties might be executed. At present they could not; and we think therefore that the disbursing officers ought to continue to receive the whole amounts of their treasury drafts, as they have been doing since the suspension of the banks in 1837, and to count out the petty payments, by the aid of their own clerks.

We can get on satisfactorily with our present duties; if they be increased, we think there is reason to fear that all will be thrown into confusion.

Gov. Findlay joins me in these views.

I will add, that Commissary General Irvine has the use of a vault at the Mint, where he has kept his money for some months, in a separate chest appropriated to him. The same privilege might be extended to other disbursing officers, — each having his own strong-box.

We find that no effective use can be made of the scales in determining the amount of coins, unless it be for new coins of our own. The foreign coins received at the Custom house are very irregular in weight, and, thus far, are all found to be defective. The change of standard, and consequently of weight, in our own coins, puts them also beyond the test of the scale-beam. All the coins must be counted, one by one, and the labor is considerable, especially as there is scarcely any of the money in gold. Out of about $75,000 received into the Subtreasury, only $80 was in gold coin. It is a fact greatly to be deplored, but it is not the

[illegible] that all the efforts made to introduce gold as a circulating medium have failed. If we had eagles in plenty, the mechanical labors of the Mint may would be greatly reduced. There are, at the time, two clerks and eight [illegible] employed in counting.

R. M. P.
D.

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury
Sec. of Treasury

P. S.— I send, for your information, a copy of a letter written by me to-day to the Collector of the Port. I regret that we should have met with such a loss from a part of our first coinage; but I should regret far more that any necessity should tempt the government to offer in payment coins so grossly defective in value, and which are, in fact, not a legal tender.

Philadelphia
Aug. 3d, 1840.

Dear Sir,

In the specimen sent to me with your letter of the 1st inst. I immediately recognized an old acquaintance, a piece of the same kind, also from Ohio, having been before presented to me. It is of no value. The black metallic part is common specular iron ore, (oligist) ~~iron~~) below it is a vein or plate of iron pyrites, (sulphuret.) The gangue appears to be slate.

Very respectfully
your faithful Servt
R. M. P.

To
Thos. Lewis Moorhead.

Mint U.S.
Aug. 3 1861

Sir,

In compliance with your instructions, I have this day certified, on the monthly return of the Treasurer of the Mint, (being the last of the Month,) that the balance therein reported as in the Bullion Safe, is found, to be really so, on a careful examination, to be really in the Bullion Safe, & is below com.

The counting of the Coin is done, by the mint hands, under the inspection of my confidential clerk, whose report to me is the basis of my certificate. You are aware that it would be impossible for me to superintend this count, & at the same time keep my own accounts. My Clerk marks & seals the boxes & bags, and tests & counts; but I assume that the labels are correct. Thus far our count has corresponded exactly with that of the Custom House.

[illegible] subsequently found, it will be noticed in the next Monthly statement of the Bullion Book.

The regular books of the Bullion Safe accounts are not yet quite ready, but

Mint U. S.

Aug. 3 / 1848

Sir,

In compliance with your instructions, I have this day certified, on the weekly return of the Treasurer of the Mint, (being the last of the Month,) that the balance therein reported as in the ~~Subtreasury~~ his hands here, is found, ~~to be really so~~, on a careful examination, to be really in the Subtreasury here in silver coin.

The counting of the coin, is done, by the mint hands, under the ~~immediate~~ inspection of my confidential clerk, whose ~~has~~ report to me is the basis of my certificate. ~~You are aware that it would be impracticable for the Superintendent this counting personally~~

On the day (Monday) when the Subtreasurer's ~~weekly~~ statements are prepared, the weekly deposits are received from the custom house, and their amount is reported. This report is made on the faith that the count of the Custom house is correct, as there cannot have been time to repeat it. If any error is subsequently found, it will be noticed in the next statement ~~of the month week~~.

The regular books for the subtreasury accounts are not yet quite ready, but

an very nearly so. The clerk, Mr. Purdy, ~~is too~~ has entered upon the execution of his duties.

The subtreasury moneys are still in the ~~faulties~~ vault of the mint, but ~~I am expecting~~ that the appropriate vault will be ready in a few days.

Some foreign guards and half dollars had been received by the Custom House and deposited in the Subtreasury. They proved to be very much under weight, and are really not a legal tender. We shall receive them, under your instructions, ~~but~~ and charge the loss to the contingent account of the Mint. We wants the Secretaries for the United States to pay away such money, even if individuals ~~should~~ refused to receive it. Judge Bibb will be continued not to take this kind of money in payment hereafter.

B. W. D.

D

Sec. of Treasury.

Mint of the United States.
Aug 16, 1842

Sir,

In a postscript to your letter of the 25th ult., you ask, "Would it not be well hereafter to have all dies for particular coins of the same diameter?"

I answer that one of my first measures, after entering the Mint, was to fix these diameters definitively, (if possible,) — and that they have not been varied since that time, — and that there is not intention to change them. I made our coins correspond in proportion, as nearly as possible, to the later coins of France and England, and I made the diameters of the coins of different values, of each metal, such that they should all be similar solids. The following is a table of the diameters adopted.

Dollar	1.50
Half dollar	1.20
Quarter dollar	.95
Dime	.70
Half dime	.60
Eagle	1.05
Half eagle	.85
Quarter eagle	.70
Cent	1.10
Half cent	.90

A. Mint P.

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury

Treasury Department
August 1. 1840.

Sir,

The enclosed piece of Ore was discovered in Ohio. The person who sent it to the Department states that Chymists are divided in opinion as to its goodness. Will you have the goodness to cause it to be analized at the Mint & the result to be reported to the Department.

Very Respectfully

Levi Woodbury
Sec. of the Treasury

Dr. R. M. Patterson
Director of the Mint
Philada

Mint U. S.
Sept. 28/40.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 25 inst, ~~inviting~~ communicating the decision of the Comptroller that the requisitions for the Subtreasury must be made by the Trustees of the Mint.

My interpretation of the ~~first~~ second section of the Act of July 4th led me to the conclusion that the Subtreasury established here was to be considered as a new department attached to the Mint, and, of course, that, by the 2d Sect. of the Act of Jan 18, 1837, it was placed under "the control and management" of the Director, and that the Trustees of the Mint were in this, as in the other official functions, under the Director's "superintendence." This view of the matter I thought confirmed by the 8th Sect. of the ~~Act~~ Act ~~of July~~ which seems to give, the control by the superintendence behind to be ~~exercised~~ exercised by the Mint and the Circulars from your Department also appear to be framed on the same supposition.

The decision of the Comptroller, however, makes the Subtreasury an independent ~~establishment~~ department, misunderstood my duties and responsibilities with regard to the Subtreasury, and, as I am not at all ambitious of power, I yield cheerfully. I am only mortified

to reflect that the action agency which I have already taken ~~in the~~ in the matter, and the frequent letters with which I have troubled you with regard to it, must have been considered as an officious interference in a department ~~of~~ at the Mint, which is out of it's — an impertinence in inferis, ~~with~~ with which I have nothing more to do, than to make a monthly count of the specie ~~in the vaults~~ in the Vaults.

I have handed over your letter to the Treasurer of the Mint, ~~who will~~ in order that he may act in accordance with your instructions.

P. M. S.

Hon. Louis McLane,
Sec. of Treasury.

Mint U. S.
Sept. 26 / 41.

Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23d, and, after giving to all it the fullest consideration, I am unable to devise any plan by which the expense of transporting coins can be avoided, if the very desirable object proposed to be attained by the receipt is to be effected. My inquiries then, indeed, that one of the transmissions may often be avoided, by a simple transaction with some of the banks. Thus the Agents of Parkhill & Buchanan & Co told me yesterday that they would now be glad to pay $30,000 in U. S. Gold coin at New York, for the same amount paid to them here by the Mint, as it would save them the necessity that they would otherwise be under of bringing that amount from New York to Philadelphia.

The expense of transportation will be trifling, and I agree with you that it ought to be borne by the Mint, and am quite willing that it should be. I hope, however, that the Collector will be instructed not to receive foreign gold except at the true Mint Value.

P. M. P.

To Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasy.

Treasury Department
Sept 25th 1840

Sir,

I have received your letter of the 23d inst. asking for a remittance of $1000 to pay the expenditures for fitting up the Treasurer's office, and for the extra salary of that office and his clerk under the Independent Treasury law.

The Comptroller has decided that payments for these objects should be made upon requisitions of the Treasurer of the Mint. On the subject of the salaries, a letter was written to that officer on the 21st inst. Please request him to state in detail his expenses in fitting up his office under the authority of my letter of the 16 July last and make a requisition for the amount for which a remittance will be made after the proper examination

Sct

Let him make a seperate requisition for his own extra Salary and that of his Clerk to the 30th inst which will be immediately remitted. This course is proposed in accordance with the suggestions of the Comptroller whose views as to such matters of form and account properly belong.

I am, Sir,
very respectfully
Your obed't Sv
Lewis McLane
Secretary of the Treasy

R. M. Patterson Esq
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia

Philad.a Sept. 24, 1840.

Question 1st. Whether at the Mint any charge is made for the separation of bar gold & silver when the bar is over 14 kt. gold and the alloy nearly all silver, and if there is any charge what it may be.

2d. What is the least proportion of silver in a bar of gold for which they allow? That is, will they allow for silver in a bar of gold when the proportion of silver is but 1/2 of the whole amount?

3d. What Karat is the lowest gold received in the Mint?

4th. How long often gold is left at the Mint before they make return?

5th. Where a bar of Gold is 14 Karats and the alloy all Silver do they charge anything for separation?

Answers.

1st. The Mint charge for parting, in the case of gold containing silver, (i.e. when gold predominates) is 12 cents per ounce, on the weight of the whole mass. We perform that process, in all cases, for the benefit of the depositor, provided the silver parted is worth $5, beyond the Mint expenses. As the regulation of the Mint requires one-fourth part of the alloy of our gold coins to be of silver, and the remaining 3/4ths of Copper, the depositor is charged by law for the alloy so used; and this charge, together with that for parting, must be covered & exceeded by $5, to enable us to part for the depositor.

For instance, we take from our books, a deposite of gold, weighing 72 21/100 ozs. it contains, of gold, 826 parts fine

thousand, (say $19\frac{26}{32}$ karats,) and of silver, 171 thousandths—
(say 2d. 19g.)

It thus yields, in gold, — — $1,243.74
Do. " silver, — — 16.12
$1,259.86

From which we deduct—
For parting, 12 cts per oz. — — $8.74
For silver alloy, 1/40th of the standd. wt. of the gold equal to $1\frac{67}{100}$ oz. fine silver, at 129 cents per oz. } 2.15
For copper alloy, 3/40 of do., equal to 5 oz. at 3 cts per oz. — — } .15

11.04

Net value of the whole deposite $1,248.82

Here it will be perceived that the silver parted, exceeds the expenses by $5.08. Had the amount of silver been 9 cents less, it w'd have been below the limit; no silver would have been reported, and no deduction whatever made from the deposite.

II. The foregoing example affords our best answer to the second question. We have no other limit in the case of silvery gold. It will be seen that very much depends on the weight of the deposite. Had it been twice as great (in the above case) the proportion of silver, and yet allow of parting. The querist can understand this more clearly by working out supposed cases from the above data.

III. Any number of carats, great or small, provided the remainder is all or nearly all silver. Base alloys, and jewelry of the lower sort, are not suitable for Mint operations.

IV. Generally two days,— sometimes three.

V. Answered under the first query.

U. S. Mint,
Assay Office,
Sept. 23. 1840.

To/
Mess. Jno. C. Farr & Co.
112 Chestnut St.,
Phila.

Treasury Department
September 23. 1840.

Sir

Your communication of the 19th. has been received. Can you not devise some plan as to keep the Mint employed without incurring additional expense — if not I will give the subject further consideration

The objection now is that the expense will be attributed to the sub treasury whereas it should really be charged to the mint if authorized, & should be examined entirely, if possible

Very Respectfully
Levi Woodbury
Sec. of the Treasury

R. M. Patterson
Director of the Mint
Philad.

Mint of the United States.
Feb. 22d, 1841.

Sir,

I have the honor to request that you will issue your Warrant in favor of the Treasurer of the Mint for One thousand dollars, under the appropriation made in the 27th Sect. of the Act of July 4th, 1840. "To provide for the collection safe-keeping, transfer, and disbursement of the public revenue."

The expenditures for fitting up and furnishing the Bullion Office, — for a complete set of books prepared in the best style — for finishing the vaults, with iron doors and double locks, — and a supply of boxes and bags for holding specie, are $627.21, and I do not know of any other expenses of this kind to be incurred. ~~The whole sum of the~~ The entire salary of the Treasurer, and the salary of the Bullion Clerk, to Oct 1st, amount to 266.58. This makes the whole sum actually required $893.79, and is the form dation of the requisition made above.

R. M. P.
D

To Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasy.

Mint U.S.

Sep. 23d, 1840.

Sir,

The following comparison of the operations of the Mint, for six months, (March to August inclusive,) of 1839 and 1840, is not without interest, and I have therefore judged it right to communicate it to you.

Six Months' Work at U.S. Mint	1839.		1840.	
	No. of Deposits	Value in Dols.	No. of Deposits	Value in Dols.
Gold —	141	833,000	283	404,000
Silver	108	743,000	297	511,000
Total.	249	1,576,000	580	915,000

From this table it appears, that, comparing the present year with the last, we have now twice the number of gold deposites, and only half the value:—

Three times the number of silver deposites, and about two-thirds the value:—

—— More than double the whole number of deposites, with little more than half the value.

This change in our business has the effect of increasing very greatly the labor in the Assayer's and Treasurer's departments,

while the labor in the other departments is diminished.

The immediate cause of the change under is that the specie business, which used to be transacted by the Banks, and in a large way, has passed from them to the Brokers, who deposited coins and bullion almost as fast as they received them, — even in sums scarcely over a hundred dollars.

R. M. P.
2

To
Hon. Lewis Woodbury
Sec. of Treasury.

Estimate furnished Dr. Patterson Sept. 23. 1840

Cushion for [redacted] chair	2.50	
2 Locks & Keys	10.00	
Iron bar for Sub Treasury Window	4.50	
Blacksmith's Bill for 2 Iron doors	133.00	
Stationer's Bill for Books &c	227.38	
Clock for desks	2.62	460.00
Sundry expenses during Session &c	2.07	
50 Boxes @ 40	20.00	
12 Bags	2.25	484.32
Carpenter & Materials	460 / 143 / 603	103.64
Brick Layer & Materials		39.25
		$ 627.21

Salary of Wm Pendleton from July 4. to Sept. 30 inclusive
89 days at $500. per annum ——— 121.92

Do - J. H. Eccles from July 27. to Sept. 30 inclusive
66 days @ $800. per annum 144.66

$893.79

Sir Phila Sept 19 1820

I inclose to your concider-
ation the following Subject it consists
entirely of the night watchman the
Sub watchman have long ben a Song
and a reproach among the men of this
institution I have lately been inform'
that the sub watch have spoken to
the men of retiring from their office if
they do. I would respectively refer you
to my Brother Mr Thomas Peterson his
Petition was laid before Councils February last
he certainly is a Person capable of taken
charge of the Second watch and I believe he
would geive entire Satisfaction to all the
officers of this Institution Sir he has not
had one days work since january last his
last earnings is almost exausted and what
his family will do this winter I cannot
pretend to say he does most cincerely
solicit a favour from your hands
Sir I hope you will lay this subject
before Mr Peale

With Much Resp.

Charles Jacobs

To
Dr R. M. Patterson

Mint U. S. — Feb. 19/40

Sir,

I have had the honor to receive your letter of the 17th, and, in answer to the questions proposed in it, I have to state that all the bullion hitherto purchased by us for coinage has been delivered at the Mint and at the just Mint value; — in this I include the large purchases ~~made~~ under the arrangements made in 1837 with the Bank of America and the Girard Bank.

The many remittances ~~of~~ made by the Bank of America, were always sent by a messenger attached to that Bank, — usually one of the clerks.

I have made particular inquiry as to the course pursued by the Girard Bank here, and find that Mr. Shipman, (the messenger named in my letter of the 16th,) is employed by them regularly. — My information is from the Girard Bank, & the houses of Benson & Co. and of Marshall, Beebee & Co. They say they repose entire confidence in him, and that they have invariably found him trustworthy.

Mess. Marshall, Beebee & Co. offer to undertake the transportation of gold, with a warrantee for its safe arrival, at a charge of one quarter per cent. But as this is low

times the charge made by Mr. Thompson, I should judge it better that the government should be its own insurer. Further will show the propriety of not sending large sums at one time.

If you authorize the course proposed, I will enter into correspondence with the Receiver General at New York, and make with him the necessary arrangements for carrying it into execution.

R. M. P.

To Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

Dr. Patterson
or
Mr. Peale
of the Mint.

Dear Sir:

I called on my tenant yesterday morning & afterward upon you. — This is merely to say that he will put no more wood upon the lot, & that nothing more will be done with it till I can have the pleasure of seeing you. —

I am confined to my Chamber to day. Yrs. respectfully

J R Coates.

18 Sep. 1840

Dr. Patterson or
Mr. Peale. —

Sir Phila Sept 17 1840

The undersend take the liberty to inform you of a circumstance which does not a gree with his opinnion. Their is a verry rough athletic negro who visits the Mint at intervals who is employd as a porter he has taken moore liberty upon him self than I think his capasity requires yesterday 16. he introduced himself into the vault of Mr Peirdys he also refused the assistance of Jarnies in filling the bags. when he arives near he always takes a stand in or near Mr Sprogues office Sir I should like your opinnion of the a bove for I feel dissatisfied with his appearance he is always officiating with seeming full power. who do not know what might take Place

To R M Patterson

Chs Jacobs

Treasury Department
Sept. 14th. 1841.

Sir,

Your communication, dated yesterday, has been received — Before I act definitively in the matter, to which it relates, permit me to ask whether you have at any time heretofore procured metal for coining, from Mr. Ignatz and if so — by what means and at what expense — done by what messengers if any were employed? and if not from Mr. Ignatz — have it has otherwise been procured & the expense of it?

Very Respectfully

Levi Woodbury

Sec of the Treas.

Dr. R. M. Patterson
Philada.

Mint U. S.
Sept. 16th, 1840

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 12th inst., and, in reply to your questions as to the cost of transporting gold coins from New York per re-coinage, I have to state, first, that the charge made to Banks & Banks, and which would be made to us, for the conveyance of gold from between the two cities, each way, is 25 cents per $1000,— so that for the sums received and returned, the cost of transportation would 50 cents per $1000. This expense could, I think, with propriety be made charged to the Mint, under the law authorizing the purchase of bullion for coinage.

The messenger whom I would propose to employ is named Jacob Shipman. He is known to me, at the Mint, only by his many numerous transactions in bullion in New York, particularly the banks of Beebee and Parshall. The contentions which are known to be reposed in him are an evidence in favor of his fidelity, but it will be proper also to make special inquiries of the banks & which he refers.

It is essential to state that we must run the risk of nothing on the road, as do the other employees of this Mint or any other. No case of the kind has yet occurred, known, and Mr. Shipman thinks that with the constant watchfulness which he uses, the danger from this source is very slight.

I hope you will excuse me for again calling your attention to the propriety of issuing instructions to the Custom-house officers and other receivers of public moneys, ~~on the subject~~ not to take English and French gold coins except at the true Mint value as stated in my letter of the 12th. — The Philadelphia Collector, Judge Blythe, reports, I am told, to take those coins except at $4.80 each, but with a provision that they may be replaced or redeemed. This is going to the other extreme, and must keep foreign gold coins from the Subtreasury here. — A general order from you would correct the evils both of new and undervaluation.

R. M. P.
D

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Mint U. S.
Sept. 14 / 40.

Gentlemen,

Since the mail departure to morning this morning, your letter of the 12th points out a serious mistake made by our Assayer ~~both of the unfortunate strips of the pen, for~~ the assays thereon were recorded, accurately made. I have given such instructions, as confidently hope will put such mistakes out of the question for the future.

(For time) the Indigo of gold into which your deposite had been melted was still in the Treasurer's hands, and it was thereby in our power to have a new assay made. This has been done, and the ~~quality~~ titres turn out to be 892.5, — the corresponding value being $ 1748.84, after deducting 95 cts for refining, being 1747.14, according to the Memorandum enclosed.

This corresponds very closely, with the amount of your deposite, estimated from the average value of the pieces, viz.

216	×	Thalers	1697.76
178		Doubloons	21.45
2		× Guilders	8.—
3		N. Carolina Vs	14.70
2		Ducats	4.54
			$ 1746.45

R. M.

The difference due to you, will be paid on your order as usual.

R. Bell

To / Mrs. Beckett Marshall.

MEMORANDUM OF GOLD BULLION, deposited the 7th day of Septr. 1840 at the **MINT OF THE UNITED STATES,** at Philadelphia, by Beebe & Marshall.

DESCRIPTION OF BULLION.	WEIGHT. Before Melting. Ounces.	Dec.	After Melting. Ounces.	Dec.	Fineness. 1000th's.	VALUE. Dollars.	Cents.	ADDITION. Silver Extracted. Ounces.	Dec.	Value of Silver. Dollars.	Cents.	DEDUCTION. For Coinage. Dollars.	Cents.	NET VALUE. Dollars.	Cents.
Mixd Coins	94	79	94	75	847	1658	98					95		1658	03

Geo. W. Eddleman.

For the Treasurer of the Mint.

New York Sept 11 1844

Dr Sir

We enclose you memorandum of Bullion dated 7th Sept. in which we find an error & presume upon reapplying you will find the Gold should apply 877 instead of 847 we presume the Assayer has made the mistake in setting down his figures — Please verify it and send us the balance due in our next Letter — The Gold consisted of

1897.76 216 x Thalers (German Gold)
21.45 1-3/8 Doubloons
8.05 2 10 Guilders
14.70 3 North Carolina pt
11.54 2 Ducats
1746.45 weighing 94 03 77/100

In the weight we agree but in the fineness it should yield about $600 more —

Very respectfully
Your Obedt Servts
Robert Parmlee

Robt Patterson Esq

Treasury Department
Sept. 14. 1840.

Sir,

Your communications dated the 12th. have been received. Permit me to enquire whether some expense would not be incurred in the transportation of Gold Coins from N. York to Philada. for recoinage & and, whether, if such course is adopted it must not be done under the Act & the fund provided for the purchase of Metal for coinage &c. and placed under your supervision.

Very Respectfully
Levi Woodbury
Sec. of the Treasury.

Dr. R. M. Patterson.
Philada.

Mint U. S.

Phila. 12 / 40.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th, respecting the recoinage of foreign gold coins paid into the Sub Treasury at New York. In answer to your inquiries, I have to state that when the amount does not exceed $50,000, I believe it could always be refined by us without any delay, and that in no probable case, would the delay exceed a week. The same reasons which induced me to urge the propriety of recoining the deposites made in consequence of the error, to which I have so frequently called attention, in the law which makes foreign gold coins a tender, there will be some loss in this recoinage, but I think it better that this should be borne, than that foreign coins should be paid out by the government. May I respectfully suggest the propriety of giving special instructions to the Assayers, not to ~~receipt of~~ take foreign gold coins except at their true standard value by weight. The law of 1834 would not be contravened by such instructions, because, in point of fact, the foreign coins in

question do not conform with the terms as to Weight and

The following are the par values, per Troy Ounce, at which foreign gold coins might be received, British Coins, (either of the former or present coins) $ 18.92 ; French Coins, $ 18.57.

Treasury Department
Sept 10th 1840

Sir

The Receiver General at New York writes that foreign gold, principally French and English, constitutes a large part of his specie receipts, and inquires whether it will not be advisable to send it to the Mint to be coined into half and quarter-eagles.

I will be obliged to you to state if the coinage could be effected without much delay, and without occasioning much expense. The gold has been received by weight, and not by tale.

I am, Very Respectfully
Yr Obdt Servt
Levi Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury

R. M. Patterson Esq
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia.

Mint of the United States.
Sept. 7th, 1840.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the President's Commission ~~appointing~~ me the appointment of Engraver of the Mint of the United States. I accept it with gratitude, and will endeavour to merit the confidence reposed in me, by performing the duties of my office with zeal and fidelity.

In compliance with the request made in your letter of the 4th inst., I have to state that I am a native of York County, Pennsylvania.

I send enclosed my oath of office, taken in conformity to the 5th Sect. of the Mint Act of Jan. 18th, 1837.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

To
Hon. John Forsyth,
Secretary of State.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,

Register's Office,

September 3. 1840.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that the usual Estimates for the year 1841, may be prepared and transmitted to this office, as early as convenient, for the purpose of being laid (by the Secretary of the Treasury) before Congress at the ensuing session.

I have the honor to be, sir,

Your most obedient servant,

T. Tillinghast

Register.

Robert M. Patterson Esq.

Director of Mint

Philadelphia

Mint of the United States,
Sept. 2. 1840.

Sir,

The amount of gold remaining
in coin at the Mint on the 31st of
July last, was $97,920.

Deposits in August:

Foreign Bullion	$ 5,036.	
Do. Coins	25,148.	
U. States Bullion	17,888.	
Do Coins (old &c.)	448.	48,520.
		$ 146,440

Coinage in August:

45 Eagles	45,000.
Remaining in coin Aug 31. 1840,	$ 101,440

R. M. P.
Director

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury
Sec. of Treasury.

Dr 3y

New York, 30 October 1840

R. M. Patterson Esq.

Philadelphia

Sir,

We beg you will accept our thanks for the useful information conveyed by your favour of the 28 instant, which reached us timely to correct, in our letters to Mexico, the inaccuracies into which we had fallen by overlooking the change in the standard, made by the last gold bill of the United States. Our remarks, thanks to your obliging explanations, will now be intelligible to our friends in Mexico, and we trust will have the desired effect.

We shall be very glad to receive the more detailed report, than was contained in the mint memorandum, of our last deposite of gold bullion. We are sensible of the considerate attention, which prompted you to direct it to be made out, for we feel somewhat ashamed of giving you further trouble on that subject.

The

The pamphlet you have been good enough to send us has not yet reached us. It will be very acceptable. Trusting you will command our services, if in any way they can be made useful to you,

We are, Sir, respectfully

Your most obedient Servts

Howland & Aspinwall

We have just received the pamphlet referred to

Post Office Money.

Silver:

1 Box	$500.	
1 "	300.	
1 "	200.	
Dimes & half-dimes, in paper	38.50	
Loose Dimes & half dimes	25.00	
Quarters, Cents &c.	2.00	1,065.50
Gold: 1 Bag		2,430.00
Total —		$ 3,495.50

Yrs &c.
F. Dimmock,
Director Clerk.

Memorandum of Moneys in the Subtreasury
Oct. 31. 1840.

General Fund.

Silver: 15 Boxes	$15,000.		
1 Bag	1,000.		
1 Open Box	840.		
1 " "	460.		
1 " "	840.		
1 " "	500.		
1 " "	247.87		
1 " Quarters	274.		
1 Bag Do.	500.		
Change Box	90.75		
Total Silver		19,752	62
Gold: 3 Bags, $5,000 each	$15,000.		
1 Bag	3,015.		
1 "	1,385.		
1 "	1,320.		
Total Gold		20,720	00
		40,472	62
Received Oct. 31, from the Collector		9,292	61
		49,765	23

Silver, Counted	$19,752.62		
Do. Held from Collector	4,142.61	23,895	23
Gold, Counted	$20,720.00		
Do, Held from Collector	5,150.00	25,870	00
		49,765	23

Geo. N. Downing Private Clerk.

Mint of the U. States
Oct. 29, 1840.

Sir,

I have the honor to request that you will issue your Warrant in favor of the Treasurer of the Mint, for Fifty Thousand Dollars, under the following appropriations:

For 1839,

For Wages of Laborers	$7,000.	
" Inc. & Cont. Expenses	7,300	14,300.

For 1840,

For Salaries of Offices & Clerks	$1149.36.45	
" Wages of Laborers	18,612,60	
" Inc. & Cont. Expenses	2,150.95	35,700.
		$50,000.

R. M. Patterson
Director

To/
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

62,400
35,700
26,700

Mint U. S. Oct. 29th, 1840.

Sir,

In compliance with the instructions given in your letter of the 27th inst., I send herewith a requisition, in favor of the Treasurer of the Mint, for $ 56,000, under the appropriations there named. It is understood that this amount is to be transferred, by a counter warrant, to the Treasurer of the United States, ~~issued~~ for the purpose of repaying the sum of fifty-three thousand dollars, drawn ~~by him~~ under your warrant of 30th Dec. 1836, in favor of the Treasurer of the Mint, for the purchase of copper for Coinage, but which has not been used for this purpose, — as explained in my letter of the 22d inst.

I have called the particular attention of the Treasurer of the Mint to the decision requested in your letter as to the several accounts of expenditure and their corresponding appropriations.

R. M. P.

Hon. Levi Woodbury
Sec. of Treasury

Mint of the United States,
Treasurer's Office Oct 29 1840

Sir,

I herewith forward you the quarterly account of the operations of the Mint for the quarter ending September 30th 1840, which I hope you may find to be correct.

Very respectfully
Your Obt Servt

To
Peter Miller, Esq
1st Auditor of the Treasury
Washington

Mint U.S. Oct. 28/41.

Gentlemen,

I have to thank you for your letters of the 26th and 27th inst., in which you point out a mistake ~~into which~~ [made by] our Assayers ~~have inadvertently fallen~~ in their note to me [of the 7th], of which I sent you a copy. In ~~estimating~~ calculating the value, in our millesimal system, of the proportion of gold indicated ~~according~~ to the Spanish system, they inadvertently used [the division of the] ~~the~~ mark ~~of~~ [into] 4608 grains, instead of that into 4800. Hence they ~~made the~~ were led to suppose the reported Spanish ~~standard~~ [fineness] higher than it really was, so as to be the more surprised by the difference which they found between it and ~~that their own~~ that from their own assay. Your calculations, on this point, are correct.

In your letter of the 27th, ~~you also~~ [however, you] ~~commit a small~~ fall into a mistake, by forgetting that our American standard is no longer eleven-twelfths, but nine-tenths. To determine the fine gold from the standard, you must therefore subtract one-tenth instead of one-twelfth. With this correction, you will find the Mint memorandum to correspond with ~~the~~ [my] letter of the 7th.

Our Assayers are preparing a report on the ~~quality of your~~ fineness of the different portions of your gold deposits, as found by

him, and as reported in the invoice. When ready, I will send you a copy.

I send duly signed, in compliance with your request, the regulations, as to charges & deposits, adopted at the Mint with the concurrence of the Secretary of the Treasury. I also send you a pamphlet copy of the Mint laws now in force.

R. M. P.
J.

To
Matth. Harland & Stephenson.

Mint Charges.
[Here copy from Book of "Notes", pages 62, 63.]

Rochester City Bank
Oct 28. 1840

Dear Sir

Above you have my draft on N.Y. $150 for which please send me a keg of cents, if agreeable to you — If you send them, please do so immediately that they may reach us before the close of navigation — If not sent please return the dft. —

On what terms can I get some 1/2 dimes —

Very Truly
J. T. Pepper [illegible] Cash

Treasury Department
October 27. 1840.

Sir

In reply to your letter of the 22nd. instant I have to remark, that in order to effect the object desired it will be necessary for you to draw a requisition in favor of the Treasurer of the Mint payable out of the appropriations from which the $50.000. is to be refunded. The transfer can then be effected by Warrant & Counter warrant here.

From the books of this office there appears to be due to the officers of the Mint more than three quarters salary for the current year. This is an irregularity which should not exist and I shall be pleased to have it avoided in future. It is very desirable that the accounts under each head of appropriations be kept separate & distinct.

Very Respectfully

Levi Woodbury
Sec. of the Treasury.

R. M. Patterson
Director of the Mint
Philad.a

New York, 27 October 1840

R. M. Patterson Esqr.
Director of the U.S. Mint
Philadelphia

Sir,

With reference to our respects of yesterday, and for the purpose of further elucidation, we beg leave to annex an abstract of our Invoice of the 6 bars Silver Holding gold in bar H 27, deposited on 3 instant. By this it would appear, that there are several other bars besides No. 60, Mint No. 562, the stamps on which, as copied by your assayer, differ from our Invoice. The quantities of gold extracted p 1000, according to the mint memorandum, differ from the report of your assayer, if we are correct in estimating the fine gold in each bar, by deducting 1/2 from the weight of standard gold, reported in the Mint Memorandum to have been extracted.

We shall be greatly obliged to you, if you can furnish us with, or can inform us where we can obtain, any publication detailing the changes made

made by the mint for the respective operations it undertakes.

We are, Sir, very respectfully

Your most obedient Servts

Howland & Aspinwall

Invoice Mint	Invoice Assay d. gr.	Mint Assay	Invoice gr. gold/1000	Gold Extracted of Mint Mem.	reported by your Assayer p letter of 7 Oct
Feb 27. 1 bar No 65 wt	11.09 = 947 21	952.	75 = 1578.	14 1/4	
1 " 84 "	11.13½ = 963 52	969.	87 = 1878.	17 314	
1 " 71 . 560	7.10½ = 619 79	633.	1425 = 2906 042	295 341	290
1 " 60 . 562	6.10 = 534 72	578.	2183 = 4574 74	4508 29	448
1 " 74 . 561	7.14 = 631 94	649.	1541 = 3291 041	3205 7/8	315
1 " 75 . 563	7.03 = 593 3/4	605.	1616 = 3367 2/3	339 17	333

D 535

New York, 29 October 1840

R. M. Patterson Esq.

Director of the US Mint, Philadelphia

Sir,

We ought sooner to have thanked you for the particular report, you were good enough to give us by your favour of the 7 instant, relative to the Bullion deposited by us on the 3 instant, but we do not the less feel truly sensible of that obliging mark of attention, since it is important to ourselves, as well as to others engaged in the trade, that any inaccuracy of the assays made at the Mines in Mexico should be pointed out. It is equally desirable that the cause of its appearing, that the Mint in Philadelphia extracts less gold from bar silver than is done in London and Paris, should be explained; when, as we believe is the case in the present instance, the difference arises from errors committed by particular assayers in Mexico. In most of the trials made by ourselves, we have found the Philadelphia mint quite as expert-

as

as the most careful refiners in London & Paris.

With regard to the bar on which the Mexican assay appeared to your assayer to exceed the total weight, we perceive an error must have occurred in the copy taken by your assayer of the marks on the bar, the Invoice of which is

	Mmts	d.	ors	Silver	Gold	Total fine metal
Box H27, No 60.	562.	6.10	2183	= 534.72	& 454.79	989.51

and not 1009, as stated in your assayers report.

We are, Sir, respectfully

Your most obedient Sewants

Howland & Aspinwall

Mint of the United States
Oct. 24th, 1840.

Sir,

I have considered very maturely the subject referred to me in your letter of the 17th inst., in which you desired me "to suggest, at my earliest convenience, any remedy which may be suitable to propose to the Collectors and Receivers of the public money, in the interim before the meeting of Congress, to obviate the embarrassments which have arisen," under the act of 1834 making certain foreign gold coins a legal tender.

The first remedy which occurred to me was, as you already know, that you should issue your instructions to the Collectors of the revenue, not to receive foreign gold coins except at their true mint value, — for example $18.92 per ounce for British gold, and $18.57 per French. On further consideration, however, makes me doubt the legality of this course. It would be virtually establishing a new rate of legal tender, — a power which, I presume, is reserved to Congress.

Of your right to refuse, or receive or to pay these coins, ~~I have~~ on the ground that the conditions of the act of '34, are not fulfilled, I have little doubt, yet I think, ~~it would~~ that as Congress will soon be in session, it would be

most prudent, at least, to leave even this, which is the true remedy for the evil, to their action. I have consulted the N.Y. Receiver General Mr. Allen, and Mess. Prime, Ward & King, who are extensive dealers in bullion, as to the inconvenience that might ~~arise, from~~ occur, if ~~the~~ government were henceforward to cease to receive and pay foreign gold coins, and they both express the opinion that such a measure would give rise to confusion and complaint, ~~if not unless~~ if not founded on a formal and permanent act of Congress.

After a careful view of the whole case, I feel constrained to ~~again~~ join in this opinion; and I can, therefore, only respectfully recommend that you should yourself ask the attention of Congress to this matter. My repeated representations with regard to it have failed to produce any action on their part.

R.M.P.
Director

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

Treasury Department
October 26th 1840

Sir, I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday

I will endeavor to direct transfers from the Mint to the Treasury to the extent of but 50.000 in Gold. The Treasurer has two prefered for 15.000 each, which will be used as opportunities occur.

The difficulty in transferring Silver is the trouble & inconvenient & expense on account of its weight, in bringing it so far.

Can you not exchange it for Gold? If you find this impracticable we must make an effort to take it instead of Gold either on drafts, or by transfer, in order to relieve you from the embarrassments suggested. I enclose a check for the new dollar, which is indeed beautiful.

I am very respectfully
Your Obed Sr
Levi Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury

R. M. Patterson Esq
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia

Office of R General
New York Oct 23 1840

R M Patterson Esqr

Dir

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st instant, on the subject of foreign gold coins. I was not aware that the conditions of the act of 1834 are not fulfilled until the receipt of your letter alluded to above. The foreign gold received at this office, has all been weighed and estimated in accordance with tables prepared for the purpose under the provisions of the act of June 1834, which tables are in general use by the banks and money brokers of this city. It would appear however, by your letter, that there is a deficiency in the fineness of the British and French gold, of about five cents on the ounce, and to remedy the evil resulting to the government from the receipt of this depreciated coin, it would seem right, (you say) that government should hereafter refuse to receive and pay such foreign gold coins, and you ask my views on the subject.

My opinion is not worth much, but you shall have it. First, I think with you, that it may be doubted whether any authority, short of an act of Congress, would justify the refusal to receive the British coin at more than $18.42, or the French at $19.57 per ounce, while, as I understand it, the act of 1834, makes these coins a tender, the first at $18.96 and the second at $19.62; and it follows in course, as I think, if there is no authority to lessen the value of these coins as a tender, there can be no authority to refuse their receipt altogether. The subject is important, and as Congress will be in session in a few weeks, it would seem to be the best policy, under the circumstances, to refer the whole matter to their deliberation.

I am with respect
Yours—
Stephen Allen
Secretary General

Mint U.S. — Oct. 23d, 1840

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st inst., in reply to mine of the 19th, in which you again state that the public want at this time no coin that the mint need be diminished, and that at least $100,000 of the public deposite be ready in Gold to be transferred to Washington within the next 30 days.

We will do our duty to obey your instructions, if persevered in, and this shall be done faithfully, although the consequence must be to break down entirely the system of prompt payments which has proved so advantageous, — to keep back specie deposites from the Mint, — to renew the complaints of delay formerly so annoying, and to require the giving of explanations, promises, and excuses, which are still more annoying. Will you pardon me, then, if I once more earnestly plead with you to spare a part of our gold deposite, which, as I stated in my letter of the 19th, is already reduced to $101,218.79; while that of silver is $302,115.82. If you could limit your draft to even $50,000 in gold, and take the remainder in silver, the advantage to the Mint would be instantly great, since, with good activity, we should still be able to pay promptly

for deposits that are not very large. I explained to you, on a former occasion, the reasons which make it impossible that a mint ~~sh~~ can conduct its operations without having continually on hand a ~~supply~~ portion of uncoined bullion. If this does not belong to the government, it must belong to individuals, and the Mint must always be in debt to some one. A single example, ~~one~~ from such, selected from many others, will illustrate this necessity. — A hundred thousand dollars worth of gold, is deposited at the Mint, ~~and~~ is melted into ingots, and these ~~are~~ rolled into strips. From these strips planchets are cut which amount to about three-fifths of the whole in weight, and will make coins to pay $60,000; and if the Mint have $40,000 besides, the deposit can be paid. If not, the $40,000 of clippings, (the part of the strips left after the planchets have been cut out,) must again be melted into ingots, and the strips from these will make $24,000, and leave $16,000, which is already less than a regular melt for ingots. ~~&c.~~ This operation, repeated, will leave successively uncoined $6,400, — $2,560, — $1,024 — &c. The depositor therefore could not be paid at all, without making use of the bullion brought by some succeeding depositor; and this ~~[illegible]~~ may certainly will be the case with the government deposits, if the whole of it be required as you have proposed. ~~The [illegible] advance [illegible]~~

A ~~deposit~~ fund of bullion remaining with the mint is thus shown to be an indispensable instrument in its operations; and it is one which, like the steam-engine and coining press, ought, in all propriety, to be furnished by the government, and not to be borrowed from individuals. Let me then again express my anxious hope that you will not require more than $50,000 of our gold deposits, and that you will take the remainder in silver.

Our ~~gold coinage has~~ operations in gold have, for the last four weeks, been very active, — the amount coined, in that time, being about $400,000. ~~The bea~~ A deposit of $300,000 made by Prime, Ward, & King has been paid, and we have now on hand, free for your proposed draft, the ~~s~~ sum you require, of $20,000, or even $30,000. —

May I suggest to you the propriety of ~~gettin~~ obtaining from us, for the expenses of Congress, a supply of dollars, instead of half dollars, for that portion of the $100,000, which I still hope you will take in silver. I send you a specimen of our present dollar coinage.

I have delayed answering your ~~l~~ communication of the 19th inst., until I can receive a reply to some inquiries which I have made of the Receiver General at New York. I hope to be able to furnish to you my views ~~to you~~ on the subject tomorrow.

R. M. P.

Sec. of Treasury. =

Mint of the United States.
Oct. 22d, 1840.

Sir,

On the 30th of December 1836, — being then at Washington, — I asked for your warrant in favor of the Treasurer of the Mint for fifty thousand dollars, under the standing appropriation for the purchase of copper for coinage, and this sum was ~~remitted~~ transferred to the Mint accordingly. The act of Jan 18th 1837, which followed closely afterwards, put it out of our power to use this fund for the purchase of copper, and it ought, ~~of course~~ to be returned into the treasury of the United States. It has, however, been used by us for other expenses of the Mint, instead of our making drafts under the proper appropriations.

It is our wish now, to replace this amount of $50,000, out of other appropriations for the Mint, undrawn; and, of these, there are $14,300 of the appropriations for 1839, and $62,400 of the appropriations for 1840.

I respectfully apply for instructions as to the course which we should pursue in order to make the transfer in question.

Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec of Treasy.

R. M. Patterson,
D

New York 22 Octo. 1840

R. M. Patterson Esqr. Director
U.S. Mint Philadelphia

Dear Sir

We thank you for your favor 21 inst. and for the promptness with which you meet the requests we have to make of you — our messenger will be with you tomorrow — but not to return until Saturday.

Duly observing the remarks you make in regard to the falling below Standard of foreign coins — as assayed at the Mint — and that, under the law of 1834 — Government might refuse to receive such coins — unless with an allowance for variation — together with your query as to the expediency of such a course — we would state our belief that it would be productive of great confusion and difficulty — for it would tend to render of no value in practice, the law of 1834 — which though not intrinsically right — is so nearly so — as to render a change inexpedient, unless by a new law. After all — may there not be some error in our assays? — for singularly enough as it seems — complaints are made, both from assays in England and in France, that our American Silver and Gold Coins, vary occasionally from our Standard — we have no case in point ourselves — but so learn from others: — perhaps under all circumstances, it is best to let, what is so nearly well — alone. —

With great respect
We remain Dear Sir Your obt. Servts.
Prime Ward & King

Mint of the United States.
Oct. 21st, 1840.

Sir,

The assays made at the Mint, on various lots melted of foreign gold coins, since the passage of the act of 1834 making them a legal tender, prove that the conditions of that act are not fulfilled; namely that the gold coins of Great Britain &c. shall be "not less than 22 carats fine," are those of France "nine tenths fine." Under these circumstances, it would seem right that government should hence forward cease to receive and pay such foreign gold coins. In a letter received from the Secretary of the Treasury this morning, he "desires me to suggest, at my earliest convenience, any remedy, ~~for the evil in question~~ which may be suitable to propose to the Collectors and Receivers of public money, in the interim before the meeting of Congress, to obviate the embarrassments which seem to have already arisen" from the evil in question.]

British gold might be properly received and paid at $18.92, and French at $18.57 per ounce; but it may be doubted whether any authority short of an act of Congress could establish a new rate of tender. That it would be lawful to refuse these foreign coins altogether, I have no doubt, and I would not hesitate to recommend this step, unless ~~was~~ it should appear ~~the apprehension~~ that it might give rise to serious inconvenience in the mercantile community, which I can hardly suppose. Of this, however, your position must make you a good judge, and you will greatly oblige me, if you will permit to see your views on the subject. The present over-valuation of foreign gold is not only unjust in itself, but greatly interferes with the operations of the Mint, and the extension of a true American metallic circulation.

Very respectfully,
Your faithful Servant,
R. M. Patterson
Director of the Mint

To/
Stephen Allen, Esq.
Receiver General
New York

Treasury Department
Oct. 21st 1840

Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 19th inst. shewing the state of the Public deposites in the Mint. I would not diminish this fund, were not the public wants at this time such as to require it. Its amount can again be enlarged, whenever our resources will permit, & will be most cheerfully.

From present appearances our fiscal necessities will require, that at least $100.000 of the Mint deposite should be ready in Gold to be transferred here within the next 30 days — a a large part of it then, and the rest soon afterwards. I must therefore request you to take the proper measures, and advise me how soon any amount equal to $20 or 30.000 can be put under transfer to the Treasury. If in the end I should not need the whole it will not be taken.

I am Sir
very respectfully
Your obt Servt
Levi Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury

R. M. Patterson Esq
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia

Treasury Department
Oct 21st 1840

Sir

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 19th inst. Whenever I shall receive your reply to mine of the 19th inst on the same subject, I shall be happy to adopt such further steps as shall seem to be proper and necessary. I wish to cause as little change & difficulty to the community as possible — till Congress can revise the present laws concerning foreign coins.

I am
very respectfully
Your obdt
Levi Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury

Robt Patterson Esq
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia

Mint U. S.
Oct. 31. 1840.

Gentlemen,

In answer to your letter of yesterday, I have to state, that the amount of your second deposite of French gold will be ready for delivery on Friday Morning, in time for the 7 o'c. boat for New York, if no unforseen accident occur. All necessary precautions will be taken as to packing, &c.

R. M. P.

To
Messrs. Paine, Wood & Ring,
New York.

P.S. — The assays made at the Mint, on very large masses of foreign gold coins, since the passage of the act of 1834 making these a legal tender, prove that the conditions of that act are not fulfilled; — namely that the gold coins of Great Britain &c. shall be "not less than 22 carats fine", & those of France "nine-tenths fine". A variation from the legal standard, called the Mint Remedy, is allowed, and the foreign Mints, it seems, take advantage of it, so as, on an average, to issue their coins a little below the standard. Under these circumstances, it would seem right that the government should henceforward cease to receive & pay such foreign

gold coins. Your great knowledge and experience in the money market urges me to ask you, whether, in your judgment, such a course, on the part of the government, would be an injury or great inconvenience to the mercantile community. Your views on this subject would oblige me much.

Yr. M. P.

c

Newyork 20. October
1840

R. M. Patterson Esqr.
Director &c

Sir,

Will you have the goodness to inform us by return mail whether our second despatch of French Gold will be ready for delivery on Friday morning in time for the 7. o'clock boat for Newyork.
If so, upon receipt of your answer, we will despatch a messinger on Thursday who will arrive in Philadelphia late that night and present himself at the mint by 6. o'clock on Friday morning will you give the necessary instructions that it may be packed and delivered to him at that hour.

Respectfully
Prime Ward & King

Treasury Department

October 19th 1840

Sir

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 12th inst with the extract of that part of the message of the President to you of that day, explaining the discrepancy between the passage previous to the passage of the Gold Law of 28 June 1834 and those made subsequently.

That Law was based upon the report of the Director of the Mint, and evidently contemplated making the Gold Coins of France & Great Britain a legal tender at the rates therein specified.

Under the new assays they rank not such within the terms of the law.

By the act of the 4th July last "to provide for the collection, safe keeping, transfer & disbursement of the Public Revenue" it simply enacts, that one fourth of the collections during the current year shall be collected in the legal currency of the United States", and as Francs & British Gold Coins under the late assays of 1834 are generally understood to

the rich, and are constantly offered in public payments in discharge of the requirements of the act of 4th July. I desire you to suggest at your earliest convenience, any remedy which may be suitable to propose to the Collectors and Receivers of Public money in the interim before the meeting of Congress to obviate the embarrassments which ~~seem~~ to have already arisen. I have this day received a letter from the Collector of the Customs at Boston on this subject and am anxious to avoid trouble and inconvenience to the community from this source as far as may be lawfully done.

I am Sir
Very respectfully
Your obedt Svt
[illegible]
Secretary of the Treasury

R. M. Patterson Esq
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia

Mint U. S.
Oct. 19th, 1840.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th inst., stating your desire to draw from the Mint deposite, $10,000 in gold, for the expenses of congress, and making inquiries of me ~~with~~ on this ~~subject~~ subject.

I begin my answer, by presenting the following statement.

At the close of the last month, the amount of gold in the Mint, belonging to the government, was $101,218. ~~77~~ (omitting cents); and it was in the following ~~form~~ states:

Gold bullion, ~~in~~ with Melter & Refiner	8,047.
Gold bullion, with Chief Coiner	13,033.
Gold coins,	80,138

This is our whole gold fund, and to show that it is already inadequate to carry into full effect the system of prompt payments, I ~~only~~ state that when the Mint is in full business, I have only to state, that the deposits of gold, ~~have~~ since the commencement of the present month, (less than three weeks,) have amounted to $382,435. Of this amount we have paid $156,977; so that we now owe to depositors $225,458, a large part of which, however, is ready for payment. We have, therefore, no gold coin free,

to make the remittance which you desire, and it is only when we have a very small business that any considerable portion of the public deposits can be free, — or the eighth at the close of September. We cannot, therefore, spare gold for Washington at an early day, and I most anxiously hope that it will not be required of us at all. — If funds must be taken from our Mint deposits, they can be better spared from the Silver fund, which has not been so much reduced, — having stood as follows, at the end of September:

Silver bullion, with Melter & Refiner	30,251.
Silver bullion, with Chief Coiner	41,447
Silver Coins	230,418
	$ 302,116

I took the liberty of suggesting to you, on a former occasion, the propriety of making the draft for the use of Congress from New York

R. M. P.

To/
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury

Mint U. S., Oct. 19th, 1840.

Sir,

I presume that the statement made in my letter to you of the 12th inst. cannot but be considered conclusive as to the fact that the conditions of the law of June 28th 1834, making certain foreign gold coins a legal tender, is not fulfilled, — namely that the gold coins of Great Britain &c. shall be "of not less than twenty-two carats fine", and those of France "nine-tenths fine."

We learn, however, that British & French gold coins are still received and paid by the U. S. Officers at N. York, as if they really came under the terms of the act of '34; and on Saturday, a deposite of French gold was sent to the Subtreasury at the Mint, by the Collector of the Port, which had received as if "nine-tenths fine." Gov. Findlay sent it back; but, in consultation with me, this morning, he was led to doubt the propriety of his doing so without instructions from you, and has accordingly received the deposite, amounting, in all I believe, to about $17,000. Our fear was, that a noise might be made about the government paying at N. York, funds which it refused to receive at Philadelphia.

It is very desirable that this case should be brought to some uniform system, and this,

it seems to me, can only be done by your explicit instructions. If it may desirable, for the protection of the Country and the credit of our own Coinage, that the foreign coins should not be estimated at a higher value than we are, as it now manifestly the case; but, if you deem further legislation necessary to bring about this object, it must submit to further delay. Mr. Beebe, a prominent Bullion broker who was at the Mint this morning, says it would be greatly to the advantage of the bullion trade, if foreign gold was no longer admitted as a Legal tender at its present over-valuation.

R. M. P.

Hon. Louis McLane
Sec. of Treasury

Mint of the United States
Feb. 17th, 1840.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th inst., enclosing a communication from Mr. Isaac Trimble, sister of the late Engraver of the Mint, and requesting from me a report as to statements made therein. In compliance with this request, I lay before you the following facts.

The original salary of the Engraver of the Mint, which continued until the passage of the act of Jan 18th 1837, was $1200 per annum.

On September 1835, (and not after the passage of the act of 1837 as erroneously stated in Mr. Trimble's communication,) Mr. Gobrecht was employed as Assistant Engraver, with a salary of $1500.

In January 1836 I presented to the Committee of Ways & Means of the House of Representatives, a draught of an act for the better organization of the Mint, in which the salaries of all the officers, (except that of the Coiner, which was left in blank,) were set down at $2000. The bill, with these salaries, was reported to the House, during that session, and became a law on the 18th of January 1837.

Owing to the public health of Mr. Rhoads, (who had been attacked with paralysis in the summer of 1835,) and to other circumstances, the great burden of the duty in the Engraving Department fell on Mr. Gobrecht, who, up to the passage of the new act, had received the larger salary. On that act going into operation, the circumstances, as to emolument, were reversed; and thereafter Mr. Rhoads received from the government, $2000, and Mr. Gobrecht $1500. Such were the payments always actually made by the Trustees, as the books and vouchers show.

But the injustice of this division, under the circumstances in which they are stated, was felt by Mr. Rhoads, to whose personal interests the appointment of Mr. Gobrecht was eminently beneficial, and he voluntarily and cheerfully agreed with Mr. Gobrecht to pay to him quarterly such a sum, ($625) as would place them on an equality. This was strictly a private arrangement between these two individuals, which I, as a private friend of both, entirely approved. She insinuations that Mr. Rhoads was "wrought upon" by me, as his superior officer, to make a sacrifice which he would not otherwise have made, is without foundation. I consider the payment made by Mr. Rhoads to Mr. Gobrecht as an emolument to him for having, during the whole period in question, done a great part of Mr. Rhoads' just share of the work, and for a considerable portion of the time, the whole of it.

I will only add that no mystery was ever thrown over this transaction, — that no complaint with respect to it was ever made by Mr. Rhoads, as far as it has come to my knowledge, — and that, during the whole time of this official connexion and up to the time of Mr. Rhoads' death, he and Mr. Gobrecht were always on terms of cordial friendship and good understanding.

P. M. Pattison.
Director

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury
Sec. of the Treasury.

P.S. Mr. Rhoads' communication to you is returned enclosed.

Treasury Department
Oct. 17th 1840

Sir,

It will be desireable within the ensuing 30 days to transfer from the Mint about $100.000 in American Gold Coin to the Treasury here, for the purpose of meeting the expenditures incident to the session of Congress.

I will thank you to inform me at your earliest convenience of the amount of such coin, which may be now transferred, that I may direct drafts to issue as opportunities may occur for bringing the money here.

Also what amount can be had in fifteen or twenty days.

I am Sir
very respectfully
Your Obed Svt.
Levi Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury

R. M. Patterson Esq
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia

(Copy)

Mint of the United States,
Treasurer's Office October 15. 1840

Sir,

I have the honor to forward you the annexed A/cts. of the ordinary receipts and expenditures exhibiting the balance due the United States at the end of the 1st. quarter, 1839.

I also forward the statements relating to the Coffee accounts under the old system, which were commonly closed in the 1st. quarter 1838, and are, therefore, now opened with a view to a true settlement of the same.

I am very respectfully
Your obed. Serv.
(Signed)
Wm. Findlay
Treasurer of the Mint

To Selph Meredith Esqr
Chief Clerk of the Treasury
Washington

Treasury Department
October 14th 1840

Sir,

I would call your attention to the inclosed communication of Mrs Lavinia Krauss, widow & executrix of William Kneass deceased, late engraver in the Mint at Philada and request that you will report on the truth of the facts contained therein.

I am Sir,
Your Obt Servt.

Levi Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury

R. M. Patterson Esqr
Director of the Mint
Phila

(Copy)

Mint of the United States,
Treasurer's Office October 4, 1860

Sir,

I herewith forward you the quarterly accounts of the receipts and expenditures of the Mint for the first second and third quarters of the present year, which I hope you will find to be correct.

Very respectfully,

Your obedient Servt.

(Signed) Wm. Lindsay

Treasurer

Hon. Lyman Trumbull
Chairman of the Committee of the Treasury

...

Bank of America Oct 13. 1840

Dear Sir

I have received your favor of the 9th Inst a Statement of the Value of the deposites made by Messrs Howland & Aspinwall amounting in Gold & Silver to $77485.98 was handed to us by those gentlemen the day after the date of my last letter to you — Will you please direct $10000 of the Silver to be Coined into dimes & half Dimes, and I wish you to have the balance of these deposites put up so as to be ready to be delivered to our Messenger within a day or two, and we shall be pleased to receive $10.000 of the Amount in quarter Dollars

I transmit enclosed a Treasury draft No 3370 on the Mint for $2079.15 which you will pay in either Gold or Silver Coin, and I Request that the Amount may be put up and delivered to our Messenger with the Coin above Mentioned

Our Messenger will take in and deposite at
the Mint a quantity of foreign & other Coins,
principally Gold Coins of Various denominations,
and amounting to about $28.000 which you
will direct to be Recoined for our account, and
I will thank you to advise me hereafter of
the Value of the 10 Thaler Pieces and the
Carolina Gold —

I remain very Respectfully
& Truly Yours
Jno. Newbold Pres

R M Patterson Esq
Director US Mint
Philad[a]

Mint of the United States.
Oct. 12 th, 1841.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10 th inst., in which you ask my attention to Dr. Morris's report, of the 24th of March 1834, on the subject of foreign Coins. In answer to your letter of the 5th, I confined ~~my letter~~ myself to the period referred to in the letter of Mess Chew, to which you asked the means of replying. You seem to direct my notice generally to the circumstance that the old mint reports ~~confirm~~ went to confirm the legal standard fineness of the British and French Coins, while those ~~made since~~ subsequently more recently have made them both deficient by about a thousandth part. As this question belongs the department of the Assayer, I have asked from them a statement on the subject, which I annex a copy to this letter, and which I am sure you will find to be entirely satisfactory.

To Wm. Lewis Moseley,
Sec. of Treasury

R. M. P.
D

Copy of a statement made by the Assayers of the Mint ~~Oct. 12th, 1844~~ to the Senate, — Oct. 12th 1848.

In reference to the letter of the Secretary of the Treas^y ~~[illegible]~~ referred to us this morning, the Assayers ask leave to state, that the presentation of British or French gold coins at the Mint, for re-coinage, was a thing ~~[illegible]~~ wholly unknown, for at least 20 years previous to the passage of the Gold Bill, in July 1834. In that month began the unprecedented flow of gold to the Mint, ~~and~~ which was kept up for at least three years, ~~thereafter~~ and which gave us very large experience in assaying all sorts of foreign coins, especially those of France and Great Britain. In that same month we commenced reporting British gold Coins at $21\frac{31}{32}$ carats, and French at $21\frac{19}{32}$; which, when the ~~decimal expression~~ millesimal notation was adopted, (November 1835,) were changed to 915½ and 899 thousandths, respectively,— being the nearest equivalents. The uniformity is so entire, whether in operating upon large masses or small, as ~~[illegible]~~ not to deviate ~~not~~ more than the half of one-thousandth part; and in fact, we have long since adopted the practice of reporting upon them without assay,— trusting to the trial of ingots, into which they are cast, to confirm our ~~confidence in them~~ report.

The following specific cases are taken from the record, as examples, from a vast catalogue.

Kind, of Coins.	Depositor.	Date.	Weight. Ozs.	Fineness.
British.	Girard Bank.	Sept. 9. 1834.	2557.90	$21\frac{31}{32}$ car.
Do.	Bank U. States.	" 12 "	5677.70	"
French.	Do.	" " "	111.00	$21\frac{19}{32}$ "
British.	Phenix Bank, N.Y.	Oct. 9 "	2633.52	$21\frac{31}{32}$ "
~~Do.~~	~~Bank of America "~~	~~" 30 "~~	~~12629.40~~	~~"~~

Kind of Coin.	Depositor.	Date.	Weight, ozs.	Fineness.
British.	Bank of America.	Oct. 30. 1834.	9472.15.	$21\frac{31}{32}$ car.
French-(~~[illegible]~~)	Do.	"	2486.05	Stand.*
Do.	Do.	April 22. 1837	3914.29	899 th
Do.	Maxwell & Son.	Sept. 2. "	94.35.	899 th.
British.	Girard Bank.	Jan. 5. 1838.	331.95	915½ th.
Do	L. P. Smith, Cash.r	June 21 "	512.05	915½
Do.	Schuylkill Bank.	July 10. "	822.25	915½
Do.	H. Woodes, Cash.r	" 27 "	2559.00	915½
Do.	Farmers & Mech.s Bank	Aug.t 21 "	5274.15	915½
Do.	Smithsonian Fund	Sept. 1. "	26,860.27	915½
Do.	Prime, Ward & King	May 22, 1839.	17,223.60	915½
French.	Do.	" " "	94.30	899
~~British~~ French.	Do.	Oct. 10. 1840.	8000.00	~~915½~~ 899

* The Standard at that date was 899.225, ~~(about)~~ and the small fraction (less than a quarter of a millième,) ~~and the quarter~~ ~~millième~~, was ~~of course~~ disregarded.

Copy

"To the Honorable
Isaac Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury
of the United States."

"I respectfully take occasion as widow & Executrix of William Kneass late Engraver in the Mint of the United States, to submit to you the following statement:

"Wm. Kneass late Engraver in the Mint at Philadelphia, received by law a salary of $1200, up to the 18th day of January A. D., 1837 when an act of Congress was approved by the President of the United States entitled "An act supplementary to the Act establishing the Mint & regulating the Coin of the United States" which provided among other things that the Engraver should receive for his services the sum of $2000 per annum and the Director of the Mint should appoint, with the approbation of the President, an assistant to the Engraver with such a salary as he might think proper with the proviso contained in the 7th Section of the same that no assistant should receive more than $1500 per annum for services. After the passage of the said Act Christian Gobrecht was appointed Assistant Engraver and entered into that situation, in which he continued till the decease of Mr. Kneass. Whom

he succeeded as Engraver. From the time when Mr. Gobrecht was appointed Assistant Engraver up to the quarter ending in June last, Mr. Kneass, at the request of Dr. Robert M. Patterson, handed over to Mr. Gobrecht quarterly the sum of $62 50/100 making $250 per year or in other words equally divided with Mr. Gobrecht the sum of $500 – the excess of Mr. Kneass' legal salary over the legal salary of Mr. Gobrecht, thereby taking from his own salary of $2000, to which he was entitled, the sum of $250 per annum and handing that sum to Mr. Gobrecht who was not authorized to receive it & whom the said Act of Congress expressly forbade to receive it – for his salary was thus increased from $1500 to $1750."

"Extraordinary as it may seem the sum of $62 50/100 nevertheless was actually paid every quarter of a year, during the period referred to, to Mr. Gobrecht by Mr. Kneass who was wrought upon by Dr. Patterson the then and present Director of the Mint, whose requests as the highest officer of the Mint, Mr. Kneass did not feel himself at liberty to refuse."

"Assured as I am from a perusal of the Act of Congress referred to, that Mr. Kneass was not required to hand over any part of his salary to Mr. Gobrecht and Mr. Gobrecht was not authorized but on the contrary expressly forbidden to receive more than $1500 per annum for his services and that the rights of Mr. Kneass have not been respected as they should have been in this matter I very respectfully but earnestly solicit your earliest attention to the facts here disclosed (which are susceptible of proof) with a view to the refunding by Mr. Gobrecht of the sums of money which he has illegally and unjustly received, to the estate of My deceased husband."

"Very respectfully"
(Signed) "Jane Kneass"
"Oct. 12, 1840."

Treasury Department
Octr 10th 1840

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of Octr 7th.

In it you make no reference to the report made by Dr Moore, on the 24th of March 1834, on the value of foreign coins. Permit me to call your attention to that report, as the representations contained therein appear to have led to the passage of the Act of June 28th 1834.

I am, Very Respectfully,
Yr Obdt Servt
Levi Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury

R. M. Patterson Esqr
Director of the Mint,
Philadelphia.

Mint of the United States,
Oct. 10. 1840.

Sir,

I have the honor to request that you will issue your Warrant, in favor of the Treasurer of the Mint, for Ten Thousand dollars, under the unexpended appropriations for 1839, viz:

Under the ~~sub~~appropriation for ~~Wages~~

Wages of Laborers &c.,	$6,000.
Incidental & Contingent Expenses,	4,000.
	$10,000.

R. M. P.
Director.

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

Mint of the United States,
Oct. 9. 1840.

Dear Sir,

The Memorandums of the value of the deposites made by Messrs. Howland & Aspinwall have been sent to that House, and are no doubt already placed by them in your hands. We can pay you the whole amount immediately, except what you may want in dimes & half-dimes, - for which the demand is so great that you may be subjected to a delay perhaps of two weeks. Please then to let your Messenger know the amount of these Coins which you desire, also how much you wish to be paid in quarters. —

R. M. P.

To
Gr. Newbold, Esq.
Pres't. Bk. America.
New York.

D 497

New York 9 October 1840

R. M. Patterson Esq
Director U. S. Mint
Philadelphia

Sir

We have received your favours of 6th & 7th inst. inclosing Memorandum of Gold bullion amount $19,808.73
Silver 57.677.25

We have handed over the receipts to the Cashier of the Bank of America, with whom please understand as to the disposition of the proceeds

Respectfully
Your obedient Servants
Howland & Aspinwall

Newyork 9 octo 1840

R. M. Patterson Esq. Director
Philadelphia

Dear Sir

We thank you for your favor of yesterday
the object for which the Gold Coin is wanted
does not admit of the use of a large propor
=tion of Eagles - about one half in half
Eagles - one quarter, in quarter Eagles and
remainder in Eagles must be the proportion
required - even if some delay is necessarily
incurred. — We hope you will be
able so far to accommodate us.

We remain Dear Sir
Respy Yours
Prime Ward & King

Mint of the U. S.
Oct. 8. 1840.

Gentlemen,

I have duly received your letter of yesterday. In answer to it I have to state that recent deposites have reduced our supply of gold coins so low, that we cannot pay you more than about $50,000, on account, on the receipt of your deposite,- but unless some improbable accident shall occur, the whole amount can be coined by the close of the next week. I assume the conditions that you can make your deposite on Saturday, so that the melting may begin on Monday morning; that the deposite be in Bank or British gold, fit for coinage; and lastly that you will be willing to have eagles. My only reason for the last desire, is that so much time is thereby saved in the adjusting.

Very

R. M. P.
Director

To/
Messrs. Prime, Ward & King,
New York.

Mint of the United States,
Oct. 8th, 1840.

Sir,

In answer to your letter of the 6th inst, I have to state that your draft on the "Mint of the United States", for $447.81, due to John P. Brown, Esq., U.S. Dragoman at Constantinople, will be paid on presentation.

Very Respectfully,
your faithful servant,
(Signed) R. M. P.
Director.

To
R. H. Eddy, Esq.
Boston, Mass.

Bank of Athens Oct 8. 1840

Dear Sir

Messrs Bowlane & Stevenson having transferred to this Bank a Mint Certificate for 1,482 5 penny pcs of Gold Bullion, and another for 30,253 4d penny pcs of Silver Bullion spread to them on the 3 Inst, I have to request of you the favor to advise me of the Value of these Certificates as soon as the same shall be ascertained - and you will be pleased to inform me at the same time, when the Coins for them deposited were be ready for delivery, giving us about 20 or 25 thousand Pollary in Quarters, Dimes, & 1/2 Pieces -

I remain very respectfully
Your obt Servt
Jno C Newbold Cash

Robt Patterson Esq
Director Mint
Philada

New York Oct 8th 1840

R M Patterson Esq
Director of U S Mint
Phila

Dear Sir

We herewith forward to your address per "Jacob Shipman" One Box containing Five Packages of Gold Dust weighing One thousand & twenty Castellanos which we wish to have Converted into "Coin" as usual as early as may be & Returned to us with usual certificate of Value &c

Thanking you for promptness & attention to all our little business in times past

We beg to remain
Very Respectfully
Yrs obt servts
Prime Ward Ketchum & Co

New York 7. octo. 1840

R. M. Patterson Esq Director
Philadelphia

Dear Sir

We require about $300000 in american Gold coin - and intend sending to the mint on receipt of your answer - about half that amount - and remainder, in two or three days afterwards - will you be pleased, to state in reply if the arangements at the mint are such as that we may get the whole amount, in the course of the ensuing week - We shall probably send Dehon Gold - perhaps a part, in Sovereigns. -

Your kind attention to this, will oblige,

Dear Sir, Respectfully Your Obliged,

Pmmerandr King

Mint U.S. — Oct. 7/40.

Gentlemen, I have received from the Assayer of the Mint the following remarks on the subject of your deposits made on the 3d inst., which I now transmit

Assayer's Office, Oct. 7. 1840.

The Assayer thinks it his duty to lay before the Director of the Mint, the following facts in regard to the recent deposits of Gold and Silver Bullion, by Messrs Howland & Aspinwall:

I. Of the Gold deposite, one parcel consisted of Amalgam and Native grains. The loss in melting, was $3\frac{65}{100}$ ounces, the first weight of the parcel being but $132\frac{10}{100}$ ozs. ~~after melting~~. This loss was unusually great, but there is no ground for believing that it occurred through any fault within the Mint. — When the assay-piece was cut off, its colour was such as to presume 850 thousandths to be the approximate fineness. It proved, however, upon repeated assays, to be no more than 692½ fine, and to contain 75 thousandths of copper. The presence of so much copper, in this sort of bullion, is unprecedented; and taken in connexion with the loss in melting (which would seem to have arisen from the admixture of some other more volatile alloy) has given rise to an apprehension that the depositors may have been subjected to an imposition, somewhere.

II. In the Silver bullion, containing gold, there is a strange disagreement between our Assays, and those of the invoice. The Assayer was careful to copy the stamped numbers on the bullion, and to convert them into the millesimal notation; by which it appears that the Spanish assay is not only inconsistent with ours, but, in one instance, with itself; as will be seen by the following statement, of four parcels, containing the most serious differences.

Mint Number	St. assay. in Thousandths Gold.	Silver.	Total of fine Metal.	Our assay. Gold.	Silver.	Total. fine mt.
560	309	620	929	290	633	923
561	334½	632	966½	315	649	964
562	474	535	1009	448	548	996
563	351	594	945	333	605	938

Bars.

There were four other gold-ish bars; but two of them were combined in melting, so that their result is confused; however, the average variation is nearly the same as those above; the other two bars contained but little gold, and the variation is inconsiderable. -

From the above statement, it will be seen, that our gold assay falls below the Spanish, about 20 thousandths; our silver exceeds theirs, by 11 to 15 thousandths. - In the sum of fine metal, they have, in one case, got beyond the goal, in making out 1009.

Our trials for both gold and silver were repeated in every case. ~~Heretofore~~ We have heretofore instituted such comparisons, and been generally had the satisfaction of confirming, pretty nearly, the Spanish assays; but in this instance, the variation is so remarkable, and so much to the prejudice of the depositors, that it has been thought just to make a detailed representation of the case.

Mint U. S.
Oct. 7th, 1840

Gentlemen,

I send inclosed the a Memorandum of the result of your deposite of gold bullion made on the 3d inst., and subjoin a copy of a communication made to me on the subject by the Assayer. I regret exceedingly that you should have been subjected to loss which the assays seem to indicate, but I cannot doubt the care and accuracy of our Assayers.

R. M. P.
D

Messrs. Rowland & Ashpenwall
N York.

Mint U.S.
Oct. 7/40.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 5th inst., enclosing one to you from the Mess. Cohens of Baltimore respecting the valuation of British and French gold coins.

In answer to the inquiry which you make on this subject, I have to state that the valuations, which I recommended, of $18.92 ⅌ oz. for British gold and $18.57 ⅌ oz. for French gold, should apply to the coinages ~~before~~ ~~[illegible]~~ before as well as since 1835.

As to the remark made by Mess. Cohens, that in 1835, "by the report of the Director of the Mint, the assay gave results confirming the legal fineness of the coins of the two countries," I will not ~~[illegible]~~ present the following extracts from Dr. Moore's communication to you of the 31st of Dec. 1836, — ~~the only document, within my knowledge, to which Mess. Cohens can have reference~~ ~~[illegible]~~.

"From the Assayer's report it appears that the gold coins of Great Britain are of the fineness of 21 carats 3⅞ grains [= 915.36 millièmes]; those of France 21 carats 2 14/43 grains [= 899.225 millièmes, the standard of U.S. gold at that time.]

"The result indicates that in the valuation in the act making them a legal tender, they have been estimated above the rates respectively due to

their actual fineness. Some loss has thence been incurred on depositors at the Mint, when those coins have been taken by the depositor at the legal valuation per dwt., and this loss has occasionally, on large sums, been of very sensible amount." — "The propriety of correcting the legal valuation, so as to render it conformable to the actual fineness of the coins enumerated in the act, is therefore respectfully represented."

"To make the proper correction," ~~still retaining~~ — "the gold coins of Great Britain" — "should be valued at 94.6 cents per dwt. [= $18.92 per oz.] If however the valuation of those coins were fixed at 94½ cents per dwt." [= $18.90 per oz.] "their consequent tendency to come to the Mint, instead of remaining in the form of foreign coins, might be regarded as advantageous." — "The value of the gold coins of France may be properly estimated at 93 cents per dwt," [= $18.60 per oz.] "If however the valuation of 94½ cents be adopted for the gold coins of Great Britain, — the same considerations would suggest that those of France should be stated at 92.9 cents per dwt." [= $18.58 per oz.]

After making you this communication on the subject, it seems, indeed, strange, that ~~two~~ only two months afterwards, (Feb. 28th, 1835,) Dr. Moore should have reported that assays made at the Mint gave the fineness of the British gold at 22 carats, [916⅔ millièmes,] and that of the French gold at 21 carats 2⅜ grains, = 899.74 millièmes. — As it appears, however, that the assays were ~~not~~ made only on ~~some~~ a few coins, the variation from the general results may not be so astonishing. Besides, in the letter to you communicating this ~~table of as~~ tabular report of assays, Dr. Moore makes the following remarks.

"I have to observe respecting the gold coins of Great Britain and France, that the assays made for this occasion give results more nearly corresponding than our preceding assays with the legal fineness of those coins. It is however to be noted that even these trials evince a tendency below the proper standard, and it has even been doubtful whether 1/16th of a carat grain given below the fineness now stated would not have been equally near the average of the Mint trials. Future assays ~~of~~ of them which the law requires to be annually made will offer opportunities for approximating more nearly to their precise quality."

R. M. P.

P.S. The letter of the Mess. Cohen is herewith returned.

To/
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

~~Proposed~~ System of tests in the Treasurer's Department, as to Deposites made for Coinage.

1. The Deposite to be received, as at present, by Mr. Sprague, with the weight expressed in words, subjoined to ~~weighed~~, and the usual receipt ~~granted~~ to the Depositor. This receipt is then to be examined by Mr. Edelman, & the Weight repeated in figures. If melting be required, before assay, Mr. Sprague will see that the bullion be put into the hands of the melter for this purpose, and he will ascertain the weight after melting. Of all this, he will make a record in his Weigh-book.

2. From this record, Mr. Hutchinson will make out the report for the Assayer.

3. This report will then be handed to Mr. Edelman for revision, who will see, first, that it is a proper transcript from the Weigh-book; and, secondly, will test the probable correctness of the weight after melting, by comparing it with the estimate of loss, in the various kinds of deposites, carefully founded upon the experience of the Mint, and of which a copy will be furnished to Mr. Edelman.

4. This report of the deposite is then to be handed, in turn, by Edelman, to the Assayer, who will complete it by adding a statement of the fineness, and of the calculated standard weight and value, as well as a memorandum of the deductions, if any, that will be required.

5. The calculations of the Assayer will be revised and tested by Mr. Hutchinson; and he will calculate the deductions, if any.

6. The Calculation of the deductions will be revised by Mr. Edelman, who will then make out the Memorandum for the depositor.

7. This Memorandum will then be revised by Mr. Hutchinson to see that it corresponds with the Assayer's report, and is complete for all the purposes intended by it.

It is also very desirable that at least two of the Mint Clerks should always be present in the office until 4 o'clock. For this purpose it is proposed that the dinner hour of one should be from 1 to 2 o'c., of a second from 2 to 3, and of the third from at 3 o'c., — the last not to return, except when required by a press of business. To be explicit, it is proposed that Mr. Edelman shall go at 1 o'c and return at 2; — that Mr. Sprague go at 2 and return at 3; and that Mr. Hutchinson go at 3 o'c.

It is also desirable that Mr. Edelman should make himself so far acquainted with the use of the scale-beams, as to be able to weigh Deposites in the absence of Mr. Sprague; such weighings, however, always to be repeated by Mr. Sprague, when practicable, or, if not, to be otherwise tested to the satisfaction of the Treasurer.

R. M. P.
Director
Oct. 6. 1840.

To
Wm. Windlow,
Treas. of the Mint

Mint of the U. S.
Oct. 6, 1840.

Gentlemen,

I send enclosed a Memorandum of the result of your deposit of gold bullion, made on the 3d inst. The Memorandum for the silver bullion will be prepared as early as possible.

R. M. P.
Director.

To
Messrs. Howland & Aspinwall,
New York.

Mint of the U.S.
Oct. 5. 1840.

Sir,

The amount of gold remaining
mounted at the Mint, on the 31st of Aug-
ust last, was $101,440.

Deposites in Sept.

Foreign Bullion	$4,752	
Foreign Coins	22,183.	
U.S. Bullion	7,191.	
" Coins (old Stand.)	345.	34,471
		$135,911.

Coinage in Sept.

In Eagles	$68,780.	
" Half-eagles	20,810.	
" Quarter-eagles	24,302.50	113,892.50
Remaining uncoined Sept. 30. 1840,		$22,018.50

R.M.P.
Dr.

Hon. Levi Woodbury
Secretary of Treas.

Treasury Department
October 5th 1840.

Sir

I inclose herewith a letter from the Messrs Ehrens, making certain inquiries, based on the supposition of recent instructions by me affecting the Value of foreign gold which I desire you will answer so as to enable me to furnish the information sought by them.

Very respectfully—
Your Obt Servt
Levi Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury

R. M. Patterson Esq
Director Mint
Phila

Count of Moneys in the Subtreasury, for the service of the Post Office Department. Oct. 3d, 1840.

Silver:
In bags & boxes $1,702.80

Gold:
In bags 1,892.50

Balance in hand Oct. 3d — $3,595.30.

Counted & found Correct — Geo. F. Denning, Treasurer's Clerk.

Count of Moneys in the Subtreasury
Oct. 2, 1840.

———"———

Silver:		
73 Boxes $1000 each	$73,000.	
Open Boxes & Bag	6,745.80	
Foreign Coins	1,020.00	
Change in Box	30.81	
		80,796.31
Gold:		
Eagles in Bag	$4,000.	
Half-eagles "	4,740.	
Qr. do. "	4,115.	
Quarter-do. "	1,887.50	
		14,742.50
Treasury Notes		200.00
On hand, Oct. 2, 1840.		$95,738.81
Add amts. [illegible] since Sept 30th, viz:		
Oct. 1	$53.25	
" "	3,177.97	
" "	30.00	
" 2	17.61	
" "	20,000.00	23,278.83
		$119,017.64
Deduct amt. received Oct. 1 & 2,		18,000.00
		$101,017.64
Add amt. due from Custom House (Paid)		20.00
On hand, Sept. 30, 1840.		$101,037.64

Sept. 30. Balance in Gold	$12,930.00	Geo. F. Downing, Director's Clerk.
" " Do. " Silver	87,907.64	
" " Do. " Treasy Notes	200.00	
	$101,037.64	

Treasury Department
Sept. 30th 1840

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of Sept. 28th

The functions of Treasurer of the Mint, and of Sub-Treasurer of the United States, or, to use the language of the law, depository of the Treasury, are considered as distinct as they could be if performed by different persons, in offices kept in different buildings.

Over the Treasurer of the Mint you exercise that general superintendence, which is pointed out by the 2nd section of the Act of Jan 15th 1837.

To the Sub-Treasurer at Philadelphia you bear a similar relation to that which the Naval Officer at Baltimore had to the Depository at that city, who is the Collector of that port. Your duties as pointed out by the 17th section of the Act of July 4th 1840, are "at the close of each quarter of the year, and as much more frequently as you shall be directed by the Secretary of the Treasury so to do, to examine the books accounts, returns and money on hand" at the Depository at Philadelphia," and to make

a full, accurate, and faithful return to the Treasury Department of their condition."

I know not that the Act of July 4th imposes on you any other new duties: but you are directed and required to have it carried into effect according to its true spirit, and duly appreciated at this busy time, I doubt not, you will equally appreciate it by the Depository in Philadelphia.

I am, Very Respectfully
Your Obdt Servt
Geo. Mumford
Secretary of the Treasury

R. M. Patterson Esqr
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia.

Treasury of the United States
November 30. 1840

William Findlay Esq
Treas. of the Mint. Philada
Sir

The balance brought from your transcript of Bullion account to 30 September last, into your return of same account dated 28th inst. is $80.000 short. It should be $ 395.697.04 instead of $ 315.697.04 as you have it. Perhaps you had better make another return as a substitute for the last erroneous one.

Very respectfully
Your Obt Servt
W. M. Gouldin
Actg Secy of the Treasury

Mint U. S.
Nov. 23d 1848.

Gentlemen,

Your letter of the 21st, you will see, contains one from me on the same subject.

The demand for copper coins has so greatly diminished, that I did not deem it proper to order more than five tons; but as you have actually sent two, we will take them, paying the [illegible] in cents, according to our existing arrangement. We cannot receive them on any other terms, without advancing money for an uncertain period, and having an unnecessary supply of copper coins left on hand.

R. M. P.
Dr

To
Messrs. Crocker, Brothers & Co.
Taunton, Mass.

Taunton Oct 21. 1840

Wm Battles Esq
Director
Sir.

We have shipped to your city, consigned to Mr A. W. Metcalf Commerce street, about ten tons planchets designed for the Mint.

In your last letter to us, you requested us not to forward any more without your advice, but as we could not discontinue entirely the manufacture of the article without much inconvenience & loss, we have forwarded the parcel for annexed invoice, the receipt of which we trust you will authorize at the mint as usual.

As it is now about six months since we have made a shipment we hope you may consistently with the interests of the mint, receive one half of this parcel for the use of the mint & the remainder in exchange for cents.

A reply to the foregoing at your convenience will oblige

Yours truly

Crocker & Brother

Invoice of Copper Blanchets shipped per Schr Samuel Crocker to Philadelphia consigned A W Metcalf Esq for acct of Crocker Bliss & Co

58 Kegs Copper Blanchets Nos 831 a 888 inclusive 22,736 lbs

Taunton Nov 21 1840
Crocker Bliss & Co
Per A C Hoard Cep

Mint U. S.
Nov. 21/40.

Dear Sir,

I find by your letter of yesterday, that you have anticipated mine, ^addressed to^ of the same date.

I now send you enclosed the Treasury Transfer draft, receipted, — which closes the transaction.

R. M. P.

D

~~To/ Geo. Newbold Esq. Prest. Bk. Am.~~

To/

D. Thomson Esq.
Cash. Bk. America,
N. Y.

Mint U. S.
Nov. 20/40.

Dear Sir,

We have received this morning a Transfer draft, from the Treasury Department, on your Bank, and in favor of the Treasurer of the Mint, for $25,417.97, being the amount, now in the Mint to your credit. As a further voucher for this transaction, please to send us the bullion receipt given to you when your deposite of the 15th ult was made, endorsed payable to ~~the~~ Findlay, Treasurer of the Mint; and he will then send you the transfer-draft, receipted, as your voucher.

Your silver is ready for delivery, as indeed I have already informed you in my letter of the 3d. We have put up for you 5000 new dollars, which I hope you will put in circulation. ~~You will~~ ~~at for the great demand for small coins, I~~ ~~shall be glad now to give as many dollars~~

R. M. P.
D

Jr. Markoe, Esq.
Pres. Bk. America.
N. Y.

Bank of America
New York 20th Nov 1844

Sir,

We are advised by the Treas.r of the U.S. of the issue of transfer draft No 114 on this Bank, in favor of the Treasurer of the Mint, for $26.417.97. In payment of which I transmit herein the deposite Certificate of the Mint, dated 15th Oct. for the like amount.

Be pleased to mutilate the Transfer draft & forward it to me by return mail.

I am
Very respectfully
Your Obt Servt
C Thompson
Cash.

R.M. Patterson Esq
Director of the Mint
Philada

Treasury of the United States
November 18th 1840

Sir

Enclosed you will receive a transfer Draft, Nos. Nº 116; in your favor, on the Bank of America at New York, for $26,467-97. Payable at Philadelphia, on demand; which sum be pleased to place to the credit of My Account, on the Books of your Institution

I am respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Selden
Treasurer U. S.

To the Treasurer of the Mint of the U. S.
at Philadelphia

Treasury Department
Nov 18th 1840

Sir,

The Bank of America has offered for the use of the public service here $26.417.67 in American Gold at the Mint belonging to that Bank. I have accordingly directed the Treasurer of the US to issue a transfer draft, placing that sum to his credit with the Treasurer of the Mint, and will thank you to request that officer to hold this Gold, together with the 30.000 mentioned some days past, in readiness to be brought to the Treasury whenever the Treasurer shall send for it. I am Sir

very respectfully
your obedt
Levi Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasy

R M Patterson Esq
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia

(Copy)

Treasury Department,
November 17, 1840.

Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 13th inst., I have to remark, that in conformity with your requisition of the 2d ult., a warrant was, on the 2d inst., issued in favor of Mm Findlay, Esq. Treasurer of the U.S. Mint at Philadelphia for the sum of $50,000, & charged as follows:

U.S. Mint
Officers & Clerks, — $14,936.45

Labour & Contingent Expenses, — 25,612.60
$7000 of this sum bal. of appn. of 1839.

Wastage of Gold &c.

Incidental & Contingent Expenses, 9,450.95
$7,300 of this sum bal. of apprn. of 1839.

Accompanying this Warrant, & of similar date, was a Counter Warrant, which brought this sum of $50,000 upon the books of the Treasury, to the credit of the Treasurer of the U.S. Mint upon the account "Purchase of Copper for the Mint".

Very respectfully, Sir,
I remain your Obt. St.,

R.M. Patterson, Esq,
Director of U.S. Mint,
Philadelphia.

(Signed) Levi Woodbury,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Treasury Department
Decemb. 17th 1840

Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 13th inst. I have to remark, that in conformity with your requisition of the 29th ulto. a Warrant was, on the 2d inst. issued in favor of William Findlay Esq. Treasurer of the U. S. Mint at Philadela. for the sum of $ 50.000 & charged as follows,

U. S. Mint.

Officers & Clerks	14.936.45
Laborers & Contingent Expenses	25.612.60 $ 7000 of this sum bal. of appn. of 1839
Incidental & Contingent Expenses Wastage of Gold &c	9.450.95 $ 7.300 of this sum bal. of appn. of 1839

Accompanying this Warrant & of similar date, was a Counter Warrant, which brought this sum of $ 50.000 upon the Books of the Treasury, to the credit of the Treasurer of the U. S. Mint upon the account "Purchase of Copper for the Mint."

Very Respectfully Sir,
Yr. Obt. Servt.

Levi Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury

R. M. Patterson Esq.
Director of U. S. Mint
Philadelphia

Mint of the United States,
Nov. 13, 1840.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th inst. & While I regret that you deem it necessary to withhold your consent to the additional appropriations asked in my estimates for 1841, I fully appreciate the motives by which you have been influenced.

Under the instructions conveyed in your letter of the 27th ult., I made, on the 29th, a requisition for $50,000, with the understanding that it was to be transferred, by counter Warrant, in payment of the coppers appropriation of Dec. 1836. The Treasurer of the Mint does not think it proper to assume that this course has been taken, and to make the corresponding entries in his books, without official information from your Department, and I accordingly take the liberty of asking for this information.

R. M. P.
Director.

Col
Hon. Levi Woodbury
Sec of Treasury

TREASURY OF THE UNITED STATES.

11 Nov. 1840.

Sir:

Enclosed you will receive one Treasury Draft made payable to your order, together with a descriptive list of the same, combined with a receipt therefor, which you will please to sign and return to this office, by return of mail.

I am, respectfully,

Sir, your obedient servant,

WM. SELDEN,
Treasurer of the United States.

A. M. Patterson Esq

Treasury Department
November 11. 1840.

Sir;

Your communication, dated yesterday enclosing your estimates for the expenditures of the Mint and its branches for the year 1841 has been received.

It is not deemed proper, at this time, to ask for an appropriation for the purchase of additional ground as recommended by you - or for any increase of salaries as it may be supposed to look too much like dictating changes for our successors -

I am perfectly willing, however, that you should bring both questions before the proper committees in Congress

I remain very respy.
Your Obt. Servt
Levi Woodbury
Secy. of the Treasury.

Dr. R.M. Patterson
Director of the Mint
Philada.

The following Statement forms the foundation for the Estimate of Expenses of the Mint establishment at Philadelphia, for the year 1841.

The Balance to the credit of the U. States, on the 30th of Sept. 1840, (as appears from the Ordinary Ledger,) being available funds in the Treasurer's hands, is		$ 10,383.
There was receivd, Oct. 15th, from the appropriations for 1839, & is now available		10,000.
There remains undrawn of the appropriations for 1840, still available		26,700.
The gain by deductions from deposits, in the last quarter of 1840, it is estimated, will be		1,000.
Available funds for the 4th Quarter of 1840.		$48,083.
Probable expenses to be met in the 4th quarter of 1840, viz:		
Wastage of the Whole year	$ 3,500.	
All other expenditures, arising from the three past quarters of 1840,	20,000.	23,500.
Probable Balance on hand, Dec. 31, 1840		$24,583.

The Whole amount of expenditures within the year 1840, based upon what has been paid in three quarters, and including the

Wastage that will probably be asked, is	$72,000.
The Coinage of 1840 will probably be three millions of dollars; and it is ~~assumed~~ reasonable and extremely prudent to assume that it will be considerably greater in 1841. We deem, therefore, as the expenses ~~ordinary and extraordinary~~ of 1841, the sum of	$77,000.
Deducting therefrom:	
1. Probable Profits on Copper, in 1841,	$2,500.
2. Deductions from Deposites	5,000.
3. Balance on hand, Dec. 31, 1840, as per foregoing Statement,	$24,583. 32,083.
There remains to be asked, to cover the ~~deficit~~ expenses of the Mint, for 1841,	$44,917.
To this ~~I have added~~, for the purchase of a ~~lot adjoining the Mint~~,	10,000.

An Estimate of the Expenses of the Mint at Philadelphia, for the year 1841.

	Dollars.	Dollars.
For Salaries of Officers & Clerks:		
The Director,	3,500.	
The Treasurer,	2,000.	
The Chief Coiner,	2,000.	
The Assayer,	2,000.	
The Melter & Refiner,	2,000.	
The Engraver,	2,000.	
The Assistant Assayer,	1,300.	
One Clerk at $1300, Two at $1100, & One at ~~$1000~~ 1200	4,400 ~~4,600~~	(19,200) ~~18,900~~
For Compensation to ~~Laborers~~ Workmen,	24,000.	24,000.
For Incidental & Contingent Expenses, including the Wastage of gold & Silver, fuel, Materials, Stationery, Water-rent, & Taxes in addition to the unexpended balance of the appropriation for 1840	~~1,000~~ 800	
For Specimens of Ores & Coins to be deposited at the Mint,	1,000	1,800 ~~1,000~~
(For the purchase of a lot of ground adjoint to the Mint, for the necessary wings of the building		~~8,000~~ 10,000)
Total	$	55,000

Nov. 10. 1840.

Mint U. S.
Nov. 4/60.

Gentlemen,

I send herewith the comparison that I promised you between the fineness marked on the gold bars of your deposits made on the 3d ult., and that determined by our assays. The differences are ~~in two~~ considerable, and generally, though not always, show that the bars were overvalued.

	Gold.			Silver.		
	Spanish	Fineness	U.S. Mint	Spanish	Fineness	U.S. Mint
	Bar. Gr.	Thousandths		Dwt. Gr.	Thousandths	
No 3	22 —	917	886	~~Lost~~	—	—
16	12.2½	526.	526½	5.15	469	465½
6	18.2	771	767½	2.16	229	230½
7	13.5½	576	581	5.0½	418	414.
25	14 —	583	578½	4.22½	411	416½
20	13.3	573	569	5.0½	418	420.
13	14	583	573½	4.22½	411	415
29	13	542	534½	5.10½	453	449½
9	22.1½	932	917	—	—	—
8	19 —	792	785½	2.12	208	212
6	15.2½	630	636½	4.5	361	354½
5	14.2	604	602½	4.17	392	391½

Mint U. S.
Nov. 4/40.

Gentlemen,

I send subjoined the comparison that I promised you between the pieces marked on the gold bars of your deposite made on the 3d ult, and that determined by our assays. The differences are ~~in two~~ considerable, and generally, though not always, show that the bars were overvalued.

P. M. P.
D.

To
Messrs. Howland & Aspinwall,
New York.

Gold.				Silver.		
~~No of pieces~~	Assay Car. Gr.	Assay Thousandths	U. S. Mint Thousandths	Separable Assay Com. Gr.	Separable Assay Thousandths	U. S. Assay Thousandths
3	22-0	917	886	Not	reported	—
16	12-2½	526	526½	5-15	469	465½
6	18-2	771	767½	2-18	229	230½

Gold.

Mint of the United States,
Nov. 30, 1840.

Sir,

The amount of gold remaining uncoined at the Mint, on the 30th September last, was $ 22,018.

Deposites in October:

Foreign Bullion	$ 50,434.	
Do Coins	343,179.	
U.S. Bullion	44,232.	
U.S. Coins (O.S)	2,810	440,655.
		$ 462,673.

Coinage in October:

4223 Half Eagles	423,785.
Remaining uncoined Oct. 31, 1840	$ 38,888.

Very respectfully,
R. M. P.
Director.

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treas.

P.S. – It is proper to mention that the coinage was in half-eagles, instead of eagles, at the particular desire of the principal depositors.

Mint U. S. Nov. 3 / 60.

Dear Sir,

I send enclosed the Memorandums of the results of your deposites of gold and silver made on the 15th inst, — the amounts of which, viz: $26,147.97 in gold, and $12,251.38 in silver, is ready for delivery.

I am also to announce that the coins and half-dimes for the $10,000 warrant of the Treasurer on Aspinwall deposite are ready for delivery.

A. M. P.

Jr.

Geo. Abbott, Esq.
Pres't Bank of America,
New York.

Mint of the United States,
Nov. 2. 1840.

Sir,

I duly received this morning your letter of the 28th ult., with the accompanying draft for $130, for which you request the amount to be forwarded to you in cents. The bill of lading on the first page will show you that your request has been promptly attended to.

You can procure Small Silver Coins in return for Silver Bullion or foreign coins deposited at the Mint, — and the payment can be made by us only at the Mint, so that the employment of an agent will be necessary.

Very

R. M. P.
Director.

To
D. W. Bissell, Esq.
Cash: City Bank,
Rochester, N.Y.

Duplicate

U.S. Consulate, Leipsic, Dec. 8. 1840.

Much honoured Sir,

I have duly received your letters in duplicate and the suit of coins, which are the handsomest of any impression that ever came to my view. They are universally admired.

I am very much obliged to you for the care you have taken in the conveyance of these coins in the handsome casket, for which I must for the present remain your debtor, but hope that I may be able one day to show you how much I am obliged to you for your attention.

The amount of these coins of $15. 16½ cts. I have credited in my account transmitted this day to the Treasury Department.

The manner in which you expressed your thanks to me and acknowledged my communications on the coinage, has been highly gratifying to me. I perceive

a most striking contrast when I compare it to the utter
neglect with which my very elaborate reports on commer-
cial affairs have been treated by the Department of State
some of 75–46–30 and odd folio pages were composed with
an immense deal of trouble to be published for the benefit
of the commercial Public. Yet they were laid by on the
shelf and my sole reward for this treasure of information
and exertions otherwise performed, I obtained two lines,
advising me of their "being received."

From the first of January 1841 the Saxon currency
will discontinue and the new coin be introduced. I shall
take pleasure in transmitting to you some of them in
the spring via shipping being closed, I presume, by
that time. With sentiments of highest respect

I have the honour to be
Your Most Obedient Servant
Dr. J. G. Flügel
U. S. C.

To the Hon
R. M. Patterson,
Director of the U. S. Mint
Philadelphia

P. S. Would you be pleased to
forward the enclosed letters
to its address & am pardon
silent if you do.

Mint of the United States,
Philadelphia, Septem^r 23, 1840.

Sir,

I take occasion to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of April 24th, received on the 7th ultimo. The first suite of coins has also come safely to hand, together with the first volume of Becker's Work on Austrian Moneys. For the marked attention ~~and~~ which you have bestowed upon my requests, I beg you to accept my cordial thanks. – The information you have communicated, is not only valuable to the National Institution under my direction, but will also be embodied in a work on the Coins of all Countries, now preparing by our Assayers, and will be properly acknowledged by them.

You have done us a favour, in affording an opportunity for requiting, in some degree, your attentions. Specimens of Mexican and South-American coinage, such as may be supposed to be of rare occurrence in your part of the world, (as indeed some of them are, even here,) have already been laid aside for you. To these, and others of the same character, I shall add a complete series of our own coinage of 1840, together with some specimens of our earliest issues, bearing date in 1794 + 1795. The whole suite I hope to have ready by the time your duplicate series shall arrive. The package will most probably be entrusted to the captain of some vessel sailing for Trieste.

There is a small series of American medals, struck by order of Congress. It is probable we will be authorized to strike

copies of them, in copper. In that case, it will give me pleasure to ~~send~~ a set of them for you, at a cost merely sufficient to defray the expence of fabrication.

The balance of money, due to you, will be paid over to Messrs Peirce & Norckhaus, agreeably to your direction.

Though unwilling to trespass further upon your politeness, I cannot refrain from saying, that as your position is probably a good one for acquiring information as to the specie currency of Greece and Switzerland, it would be a great favour if you could communicate any thing to us respecting them. We have some Swiss coins, but none of very late date, although we have understood the Cantons were projecting a new Coinage; on what basis, we are not informed. As to ~~matters~~ Greece, only a single piece of Otho has fallen into our way and we are entirely ignorant of the monetary system of that country. Any specimens of the coinage of those two Countries, which you may ~~be~~ have at command, will be very acceptable.

I am, very respectfully
your faithful Servant &c.
W. M. R.

J. G. Schwarz Esq.
U. S. Consul.
Vienna.

Assayer's Office,
Dec. 31. 1840.

The Assayer of the Mint begs leave to offer the following remarks to the Director, in reference to those inquiries of the Hon. Secretary of the Treasury, upon the subject of gold coins of the United States, (old standard) and Portuguese coins.

It will be noticed, in comparing the discrepancies of the quotations as stated by the Secretary, that there is no difficulty in regard to the American coin considered by itself. The premiums both in New York and Philadelphia, keep tolerable pace with each other, year by year. It is only in the Portuguese money that the ~~startling~~ inconsistency of prices appears; although, to exhibit this as a more startling error, it was certainly ~~not~~ a well chosen comparison, to place by its side the our own coin, with which, as of the same declared standard of fineness, it ought to tally.

After careful consideration, there does not appear any method of explaining the difficulty, within the compass of the Mint

There has been no change in the fineness of Portuguese gold coins, for more than a century past. They are, in effect, the same as our ~~old~~ early gold coins; which, after numerous trials, we are sorry to say, fall short of the actual standard, by about 2½ millièmes, or one-fourth of one per cent. ~~a difference~~ The difference, it is true, is trivial, and, with respect to our moneys, ought to be charged to the inferior means of precision, in the earlier days of our Mint. It is, nevertheless, greater than the remedy now allowed by law, and much greater than could be allowed ~~by~~ in the present state of our operations.

The inquiry then, is one which lies entirely within the province of dealers in Exchange. The fluctuations in that branch of trade seem capricious enough, and are quickly felt at the Mint. At one time, Mexican dollars pour in upon us, and in a short time after, ~~we are compelled to~~ they can only be had as it were by the handful, and that chiefly to supply the exigency of small coins. In another instance, we may notice the doubloons; those bearing the royal effigy very seldom come to the Mint; those of the patriot sort are less scarce, yet in general not abundant; but owing to some unknown turn in trade, we received, in the first half of 1838, near $300,000 of them, and since that time, comparatively very few.

There are several circumstances which may throw some light upon the present question. The Joannese (Portugal) coinage can hardly be said to belong to the nineteenth century; most of the pieces to be seen, bear an earlier date than 1800, and we have no knowledge of any later than 1826. Consequently they must be getting very scarce, and of less and less consequence, every year; as must be also said of our former coinage. We receive very few of the half-joes for re-coinage; the last large deposite, of which we are aware, was in May 1839.

Another fact, particularly to be noted, is, that there are various kinds of Portuguese coin besides those issued from the mint at Lisbon. ~~half-joes, scarcely, if at all, to be distinguished by any test less sure than that of assay or specific gravity.~~ In former years, it was an undisguised trade in this city, to ~~pass~~ coin half-joes for the West-India market. The counterfeits, besides being fac-similes of the true coin, have the unusual property of maintaining a fineness not greatly below the proper standard; though in weight, they are very variable, and very inferior. We once separated a considerable parcel, as well as we could, into three lots; genuine, doubtful and spurious. The first, being melted down & assayed, proved to be 914 fine, the second 906, and the third, 887.

Another parcel, stamped 20 (supposed 20 carats) varying in weight in the strangest manner, yet not easily distinguishable by the eye in that respect, (nor indeed in any other) ~~proved~~ melted 901 thous.ths fine; which proves, first, that the pieces were spurious, and secondly that the stamp on them was an undervaluation; 20 carats being only 833 thousandths.

It is chiefly by the variation & diminution of weight, that the false pieces are to be distinguished, and yet, it is very common to see the genuine coin so reduced by filing, as to bring it within the range of the false weights, and so render it suspicious.

Another practice (doubtless employed in the W. Indies) is to plug these pieces; that is, to bore a large hole in the centre, and insert a heavy plug of gold, to bring up the weight, an object which it does not always accomplish. Some of these plugs were taken out and assayed; they were 902 th. fine.

In conclusion, we can only suggest, that the great scarcity, and the uncertain character of these coins, coupled with an occasional demand for them on a special emergency, may go far to account for the discrepancies noticed by the Secretary. –

In 1835, a new Gold coinage was projected by law in Portugal, by which the Francese system was displaced, and a Corôa, of 5000 reis, equal to 3/5 of the half-joe, was substituted. But gold coins, whether old or new, are very scarce in that country, and bear always a premium, from no part of the currency by tale. As late as 1834, it was lawful to pay any debt in the proportion of one-half government paper, one-third silver, and one-sixth copper.

Statement, showing the amount of Wastage, of Gold and Silver, in the Melter & Refiner's department, for ten years, from 1831 to 1840; together with the amount of Coinage, of Gold and Silver, for the same periods.

Year.	Wastage of Gold.	Coinage of Gold.	Wastage of Silver.	Coinage of Silver.	Whole Wastage.	Whole Coinage.	Proportion of Waste: Thousandths.
	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.	
1831	497.	714,270.	5,655.	3,175,600	6,155	3,889,870.	1.58
1832	837	798,435.	4,219.	2,579,000	5,056	3,377,435	1.49
1833	1,016.	978,550.	4,637.	2,759,000	5,653	3,737,550	1.51
1834	5,804.	3,954,274.	6,448.	3,415,002	12,252	7,369,272	1.66
1835	3,209.	2,186,175.	6,731.	3,443,003	9,940	5,629,178	1.76
1836	3,207.	4,135,700.	7,557.	3,606,100	10,764	7,741,800	1.39
1837	none	1,148,305.	4,883.	2,096,010	4,883	3,244,315	1.50
1838	"	1,622,515.	7,201.	2,293,000	7,201	3,915,515	1.83
1839	"	1,040,747.	3,174.	1,949,136	3,174	2,989,883	1.06
1840	"	1,207,437.	1,304.	1,028,603	1,304	2,236,040	0.58
	41,570	17,786,404	51,812	26,544,454	66,382	44,130,858.	1.50

Mint of the United States,
Treasurer's Office, Dec. 5th 1846

Sir,

I herewith forward you statements
belonging to the Old System
of the Copper Accts. relating to transactions prev-
ious to January 1st 1837

Very respectfully,
Your Obt. Servt.
(Signed) Wm. Dandridge
Treasurer of the Mint

To Jesse Miller, Esq.
Act. Auditor of the Treasury

Memorandum of Cash in Subtreasury, Dec. 31, 1840.

General Fund	Dollars	cts	Dollars	cts
Gold:				
7 Bags, $5000 each	35,000	00		
3 " 500 "	1,500	00		
1 "	882	50	37,382	50
Silver:				
4 Boxes, $1000 each	4,000	00		
3 Bags " "	3,000	00		
1 Box, quarters	274	00		
1 " "	1,000			
X	[illegible]			
X	[illegible]			
1 " "	(80c) 80			
1 " "	500			
Change Box	100	57	8,954	57
Treasury Notes:				
10 of $50 each, + 8 mos. int. 2 per ct.	506	67		
1 " 100, + 5 14/30 int. 2 per ct.	100	91		
1 " 500 + 2 24/30 " " "	502	33		
1 " 100 + 1 10/30 " " "	100	22		
1 " 50 + 1 10/30 " " "	50	11		
1 " 50 + 9/30 " 5 per ct.	50	06	1,310	30
			47,647	37

Chs. F. Dunning,
Director Clerk.

Post Office Fund.

	Dols. cts	Dols. cts
Gold:		
1 Box open	2,680 00	
1 " "	390 00	
1 " "	877 50	
		3,947 50
Silver:		
1 Bag	1,000 00	
1 "	758 —	
1 Box open	299 —	
1 " "	100 75	
1 " "	152 10	
		2,309 85
		$ 6,257 35

Geo. F. Downing
Director Clerk

Mint of the United States
Dec. 31st, 1840.

Sir,

I have duly received the letter to you from Mr. Wm. Kneass, without date, which you sent to me, with a request that I would present to you "any further views and remarks" upon the subject that "I might think proper." I reply that my letter of Oct 17th, which presents a true statement of the case, leaves me little now to say. There are, however, one or two remarks introduced into Mr. Kneass's letter that may require some reply from me on my part.

The first is as to Mr. F. R. Kneass's recollections of ~~my~~ a conversation which I held with him, in ~~the~~ Nov. the house of his uncle, soon after his death. He says: I stated that "under the old law, by some mistake or other the salary of the Engraver was less than that of the Assistant Engraver." This assertion would be so contrary to facts with which I was perfectly familiar, that I think it ~~must~~ will be acknowledged more probable that Mr. Kneass's recollection is incorrect, than that I can have used the language ~~imputed~~ ascribed to me. The same ground may be taken to show the inaccuracy of Mr. Kneass's recollection as to the remainder of the conversation in question;

The equalizing of the salaries of the two Engravers, while it was an act of justice on the part of the late Mr. Rinaldi, was also an act of generosity, and ~~unsolicited~~ it was in response to ~~an~~ this latter ~~plea~~ friend, and in commendation of it, that I made my remarks to his nephew.

Mr. Rinaldi says she has been informed that the Assistant, Engraver, (Mr. Gobrecht,) was obliged to devote nearly a year to the acquisition of the art, after his appointment. This information may serve as an example of the accuracy of the information which Mrs. Rinaldi ~~possesses~~ has received with regard the affairs of the Mint. — Seventeen years ago, when the Mint was left temporarily without an Engraver by the death of Mr. Scot, Mr. Gobrecht was employed by the Director to make the dies, and did so to the entire satisfaction of the Chief Coiner Mr. Eckfeldt. — I send you, by the present mail, two medals executed by him by which he came into the attendance of Carroll, the other of Franklin. You will judge whether the artist who did these works had his business to learn. On coming into office, Mr. Gobrecht was principally employed in making new dies, — but he also did much of the ordinary and fac-simile work of the Engraver's department, — work which is now, by the improvements introduced by Mr. Peale, made almost entirely mechanical.

~~But~~ One complaint, made by Mrs. Rinaldi's widow, that I did not, during her husband's ~~last sickness~~ illness, report him to the Department ~~that he was unable~~ as unable to perform the duties of his office, — and on the angry language which she is said to use with regard to me, — I have no observations to offer.

R. M. T.

The Hon. Levi Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury.

P.S. — I send back, enclosed, Mrs. Rinaldi's communication.

Treasury Department
Dec. 28th 1840

Sir

For many years Portuguese Gold and American Gold (of the old coinage) bore about the same premium in the New York and Philadelphia markets. But sometime in the year 1837, they began to vary in price, and the Price Current of the two cities represent Portuguese Gold to have been falling in one city, in comparison with American Gold of the old coinage, while it was rising in the other!

An abstract of the Price Current places this in a striking light.

New York

	1834	1837	1838	1839
Portuguese Gold	6¼ to — p.	6¼ to 10 p.	2¼ pt par	par to — p
American Gold (old coinage)	6¼ to — p	6¼ to 16 p.	9 to 7 — p	7 to — p

Philadelphia

	1834	1837	1838	1839
Portuguese Gold	6 to 6¼ p	6 to 18 p	10 to 13 p	7¼ to 13 p.
American Gold (old coinage)	4 to 7 p.	6 to 18 p.	4 to 11 p.	6¼ to 8 p

Near the first of the present month, Portuguese Gold and American Gold of the old coinage, were of about the same value in New York and Philadelphia, making allowance for the difference in the paper currencies of the two cities.

At Philadelphia, American Gold (old coinage) was at 7 a 8 p. and Portuguese Gold 2 p.

At New York, Portuguese Gold was par — p. and American Gold (old coinage) 4 a 4 p.

That Portuguese Gold should appear to rise in one city, while it was falling in the other, may be accounted for by supposing errors to have crept into the Price Currents: but this supposition will not account for its permanent fall in New York, and its ultimate fall in Philadelphia.

Has there, of late years, been any change in the fineness of Portuguese Gold, and if so, when was it first noticed at the Mint? If there has been no such change, to what do you attribute the fall in the price of Portuguese Gold as compared with American Gold of the old coinage?

I am, Very Respectfully,
Your Obdt. Servt
Levi Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury

R. M. Patterson Esqr.
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia

(No date.)

Copy

To the Hon. Levi Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir,

Your letter containing a copy of an extract from the letter of the Director of the Mint has been received, and would have been replied to sooner but for circumstances beyond my control.

The correctness of the position which it has pleased the Department to recognise that "private arrangements freely entered into between the Officers of the Government giving a part of the salary of one to the other, not conflicting with the discharge of their duties or influencing upon rights secured by law", I have no disposition to gainsay, but in the case to which your attention has been invited there can be no question that the "private arrangement" entered into between Mr. Kneass and Mr. Gobrecht did influence, & that most seriously upon the rights of the former. I then take occasion to say that it was never intimated that Mr. Kneass did not receive from the hands of the Treasurer of the Mint, the amount of salary provided for by law, for the reverse was known to me, and it is believed that the books & vouchers at the Mint will show a compliance with the law so far as they can furnish evidence of payment. An appeal to them therefore need not be made especially as the "private arrangement" was not

carried into effect till after the quarterly instalments of salary were paid.

From the extract referred to it appears that the Director of the Mint admits that Mr. Kneass paid quarterly to Mr. Gobrecht the sum of $62½, but alleges that the former cheerfully voluntarily agreed to do so. This allegation I am prepared to prove is inconsistent with the actual impression upon Mr. Kneass' mind, as it was imparted by him to several other gentlemen, and utterly at variance with a statement made by the Director of the Mint himself, on the day immediately following the night of Mr. Kneass' decease, who, a short while before his death spoke of the matter to his son, Samuel W. Kneass, and to others, and the Director of the Mint, on the day immediately succeeding that night of Mr. Kneass' death, stated to W. H. Kneass Esq. that under the old law by some mistake or other the salary of the Engraver was less than that of the Assistant Engraver, and that he (the Director) had told to Mr. William Kneass that he (the Director) would recommend an increase of his Mr. William Kneads' salary to $2000, provided he (Mr. William Kneass) would agree to divide with Mr. Gobrecht the difference between that amount and the salary of Mr. Gobrecht — the Director denying that dividing the difference was a piece of generosity on the part of Mr. Kneass. This can be distinctly testified to by the gentlemen just named if required.

I hope I may be permitted to say that if Mr. Kneass

had been disqualified from attending to his duties as Engraver, owing to sickness or any other cause, that fact should have been communicated by the Director to the department in the life time of Mr. Kneass, and the proper action on the subject would doubtless have been had. Then the truth of the representation could have been fully sifted as it should have been, and all the facts developed, and then the Director would have been acting within the legitimate limits of his duty — limits which it is presumed he has no power either to extend or contract. As the officer having "the superintendence of the officers & persons employed in the Mint", it was imperative upon him (if what he represents in the extract referred to be true) to have communicated the alleged fact of Mr. Kneass' inefficiency to the Department or the President, and from the circumstance of his never having done so in the life time of Mr. Kneass the inference is irresistible either that the alleged inefficiency rests upon no foundation, or that he has been derelict in duty in a manner in keeping with the negation of agency in bringing about the "private arrangement."

That Mr. Kneass had been stricken with paralysis in the Summer of 1835, is admitted, & also is it that for several weeks thereafter he was unable to leave his home, but it cannot with truth be said that entire & that attack and subsequent with the exception of the several weeks just mentioned and the period of his last illness, the great burden of duty in the Engravers department fell upon Mr. Gobrecht and such a charge is believed to be

wholly insusceptible of any thing like proof. Mr Kneass from the time of his appointment down to the period of Mr. Gobrecht's appointment, discharged single handed the onerous duties of the Engraver's department at least in a satisfactory manner & received a salary of, I think $1200, and if disease did sadly lay his arm, still it was of short duration, and could not have interfered with the performance of his duties longer than a few weeks, since when down to the period of his last illness, his strength was such as to enable him without harm or debility to employ himself at Engraving work mightly to a very late hour. If he had been remiss in the branch of duty to which he was employed there no doubt are satisfactory means of its ascertainment in the custody of the Director, who might well be challenged to prove that the amount of labor done by Mr. Gobrecht was equalled that performed by Mr. Kneass who was not obliged to devote nearly a year to the acquisition of the art after his appointment as I have been informed his assistant was.

It is admitted by the Director that the amount Mr. Gobrecht received from Mr. Kneass was "but a moderate compensation to him for having during the whole period ~~of the~~ in question done a great part of Mr. Kneass' past share of the work, and for a considerable portion of time the whole of it. What is meant by the "period in question" I am at a loss to conjecture. If he means from the year 1835, it surely comes with an ill grace from a subaltern officer who is expected to see that the various duties with which the other officers are charged are properly attended to, and who after the death

of the person whose rights he has wrongly and capriciously invaded, seeks to shelter himself in the suppression & obliteration of the facts which in their development must stamp him with the palpable agency & fraud & the procurement of the "private arrangement". The money agreed to be given in the language of the Director a "compensation" and as such by him regarded and expressed, I submit to you respectfully whether by his own showing and admission as the individual allowed by law to fix, with the approbation of the President of the United States, the compensation of the assistant which in no case shall exceed the sum of $1500, he has not permitted Mr. Gobrecht to receive a larger sum than the law has fixed and commanded at and been privy to an infraction of the law. If the law prescribed the maximum of compensation to an Assistant as it surely does and the Director allowed it to be still further increased have not both violated the law - the former in receiving, and the latter in allowing it as a "compensation" for alleged services.

That Mr. Kneass was induced & might & was by the Director of the Mint to divide annually the $500, with Mr. Gobrecht is indisputable. The condition precedent to his (the Director's) recommendation of an increase of Mr. Kneass' salary which under the old law was insufficient, viz. the agreement to divide the $500, was arbitrary and unjust, exceedingly offensive

to him on whom they were imposed and surely not proper to be recognised in principle. Mr. Steads must have been either worthy or unworthy of the increase of salary — if the former why was he required to divide any portion of it with his assistant, and if the latter why was he used as an instrument in the hands of the Director to enlarge the salary of the assistant beyond the legal bounds and in direct contempt of the positive statute. If the necessity of dividing a part of the salary can be imposed by a superior officer upon an inferior one might not all subordinate officers, upon the same ground, be subjected to a taxation of their salaries to swell that of the superior. The influence of a superior officer, I do not desire to comment on, but I do wish to say that the power of recommending — the supervisory authority — and the general superintendence, when united in any one individual as a Director of operations, in most instances among those engaged in such operations, give to a request the potency of a command and ensure a compliance when the wish is only hinted. For the same reason is it, that whim and caprice are so frequently indulged, at all events rarely reproved and oppression while tolerable submitted to.

In conclusion I take leave to invoke as I have

already done in my previous letter your authority to compel the restoration of the money which my deceased husband was forced to give & which Mr. Gobrecht had no right to receive.

Very respectfully, I have the honor to be &c.

(Signed) Jane Kneass.

Treasury of the United States,
December 16 1840.

Sir:

Enclosed you will receive One Hundred Treasury Notes made payable to your order, amounting to $16,700; also a receipt, in detail, therefor, which you will please to sign and return to this office, by return of mail, the same being necessary as a voucher for the payment of the Warrant upon which they were issued.

I am, respectfully,
Sir, your obedient servant,
WILLIAM SELDEN,
Treasurer of the United States.

Wm Findlay Esq
Treas. U.S. Mint
Phila

Treasury Notes endorsed dated Dec 15/40
Nos 445 to 464 - 20 of $500 - $10,000
Nos 1270 to 1309 40 of 100 - 4,000
Nos 1576 to 1629 - 54 of 50 - 2,700
5% — 114 amounting to $16,700
Entered on Treasury Journal No 6615

Mint Office
Dec. 14th, 1840.

Sir,

I have ~~taken~~ written to Mr. Wright, as Chairman of the Committee of Finance of the Senate, to ask the attention of that Committee to the ~~2d~~ evils of the act of June 28th 1834, ~~regulating~~ fixing the rates at which foreign gold coins shall be a legal tender, and I have again urged the propriety of repealing that act. You are already fully possessed of my views on this subject, and, I believe, agree with me in the course recommended. If so, I hope that you will not withhold your influence in favor of this object.

Since the establishment of the Subtreasury at the Mint, we have received $55,241.52 of British & French gold, on which we have lost $159.01, or $\frac{1}{4}$th of one per cent.; — a loss quite sufficient to prevent such receipts for individuals and corporations.

R. M. P.

To
Hon. Louis McLane,
Sec. of Treasury.

Profit & Loss on Recoinage.

Date	Description	Amount of Gold Dept	Amount of Silver Dept	Loss on Gold Dept	Loss on Silver Dept
1846					
Oct. 5	Mex. Dols. Fem. Dolls. Span. ps.		5224 00		67 77
Sept 14	Mex. Dolls. & Span. ps.		2215 75		40 12
Oct. 6	Span. Quars. Mex. Dolls. & Francs		1834 21		46 79
" 21	French Coins	1771 46		43 89	
" 25	Mex. Span. Dolls. Span. ps. &c.		1907 87		31 74
Nov. 4	French Coins	4995 27		12 61	
" 12	Sovereigns, French & U.S. Coins	9154 59		21 66	
" 19	Do & French Coins	8105 00		21 06	
" 23	Do & Do	6576 02		16 56	
" 25	Mex. Dolls. Span. ps. &c.		1531 50		47 69
Dec. 3	Sovereigns	19995 48		49 01	
" 7	Do	1703 70		4 22	
" 14	Span. Mex. Dolls. Francs, Span. ps. &c.		2162 48		67 51
		68241 52	14873 81	169 01	324 62
	Deduct Coins, as follows.				
Dec. 11	Mex. Fem. Dolls. Span. ps. &c.		3093 25		6 27
" 18	Mex. Dolls.		1000 00		3 29
		68241 52	18969 06	169 01	292 86

Gold
Loss on 68241.52 $ 169 01 nearly 1/4 th of one per cent.
Do . 18969.06 292.06 about 1 54/100 per cent.
$ 87,210.58 $ 461 07 about 53/100 of one per cent.

Navy Department
14th December 1846

Sir,

Your letter of the 10th inst. has been received — The Department has no objection to the arrangement proposed by you for the multiplication of copies of the medals voted by Congress to the officers of the Navy who distinguished themselves in the last war.

I have the honor to be
very respectfully
Your obdt. Servt.
J. Knox Walker
Sec

Wm. M. Patterson Esq.
Director of the U. S. Mint
Philadelphia

Mint of the United States.
Dec. 12th, 1840.

Sir,

In my annual reports for 1838 and 1839, I took the liberty of calling attention to the act of June 28th 1834, fixing the rates at which foreign gold coins shall be ~~made~~ a legal tender, ~~and suggested the propriety of repealing the act~~ and I presented reasons which, in my judgment, called for its repeal. As no action, however, was taken ~~on the subject~~ in the case, I now ask leave to lay the subject, through you, before the Committee of Finance.

My reasons in favor of the repeal of the act in question are the following:

First, — because the act supposes the gold coins of Great Britain, Portugal, and Brazil to be 22 carats, (corresponding to 916⅔ thousandths) fine, — an assumption which is not confirmed by our assays. The British gold does not exceed 915⅔ thousandths, and this coins are not received, at the Mint of France, at more than 915. The gold coins of Portugal and Brazil vary from 913⅓ to 914⅔. — All these coins, therefore, are virtually overvalued by the act, — for what is stated in the law as a condition, is received by the public as a fact.

Secondly; even supposing the coins to be of the assumed standard, they would be over-valued, because our own standard was raised, by the act of Jan 18, 1837, from 899.225 to 900.

Thirdly; when bullion is above our standard, there is a charge made for the alloy introduced; and if, as is often the case, ~~with Eagles and Dupleis gold~~ the old alloy be of copper only, our law requires that silver be added for which the depositor is also charged. Indeed, the whole value of a coin does not reside in the pure metal alone, and hence there is an inaccuracy in the original assumption on which the act of 1834 is founded.

Fourthly; the ~~law act of 1834~~ act in question is ~~manifestly~~ unnecessary. Whatever may have been the case at the time it was adopted, it is manifest that the mints of the United States are now abundantly sufficient for all the gold coinage required for circulation.

Fifthly; Coins not corresponding in value and denominations to our money of account never can form an efficient part of our circulating medium.

Sixthly; the law of 1834 not only seems to lead the community into error, but prevents the coinage of foreign gold at our Mints, since it gives to this gold a higher value than to our own. From constant evidence presented to me that this natural consequence exists in fact.

R. M. P.

To
Hon. Silas Wright, Jr.
Chairman of Committee of Finance
U.S. Senate.

Treasury Department
Dec. 12. 1840.

Sir,

Your communication of the 10th. inst has been received and I will consult with the President and Secretaries of War and Navy on the subject of it.

If it be found that the object cannot be effected satisfactorily, without ~~[illegible]~~ an act of Congress, I will submit the matter for the consideration of the proper Committee. This an object deemed by me very desirable.

Very Respectfully

Levi Woodbury

Sec. of the Treasury

W. R. M. Patterson
Director of the Mint
Philada

Mint Office
Dec. 12 / 40.

Sir,

I have the honor to request that you will issue your warrant in favor of the Treasurer of the Mint for Sixteen thousand Seven hundred dollars, ~~being the balance under the following estimates of the~~ appropriations for the current year; viz:

Salaries of Officers & Clerks	$ 5,463.55
Wages of Workmen	4,387.40
Incidental & Contingent Expenses	3,849.05
New Machinery	3,000.
	$ 16,700.

R. M. P.

Dr

Hon. Levi Woodbury
Sec. of Treasury.

Mint U.S.
Dec. 10th, 1840

Sir,

In answer to the questions proposed, through you, by Commodore Nicholson, as to what copper, I have to state, ~~first~~, that a specimen of Navy Copper was analyzed, at the Mint, in 1836, at the request of Mr. Pendergrast, and was found to contain 94 3/4 per cent of pure copper. The character of the residue was not accurately determined; but a trace of iron was present, and tin and lead were sought for in vain.

~~Secondly~~ Iron can be mixed with Copper, and is commonly found in it, in small quantity, its origin being, no doubt, from the iron pyrites which always accompanies the copper ores.

I doubt whether foreign substances are wilfully introduced into the copper furnished for the Navy. I am confident that this could not be done in sufficient quantity to be a pecuniary object to the Contractor, without so changing the quality and appearance of the metal as to be at once detected.

I doubt whether there is any advantage in the conditions which require the copper to be cold rolled. If the copper contains

a portion of arsenic, (which it may get from the pyritic ores,) it would will better call them hot.

R. M. P.

To
Lieut. Lardner.

Can Iron be mixed with Copper?

Can Lead or Tin be mixed with Copper

What foreign substances can be mixed with Copper, particularly what Copper to deteriorate it,

It appears to the Com.r that the Contractors cannot afford to give the purer article at the price they generally propose to sell it to the Government

What is the advantage of cold rolling Copper. which is done in the Navy because Com.r Rodgers supposed they could not "cold roll" any but the purest Copper. —

It becomes much harder from being cold rolled does not lay on the Ships bottom as smoothly as Rol rolled

The above is an abstract of questions proposed by Comm.r Nicholson to Lieut Lowndes

General Fund: Dec 14. 1840.

Silver:

12 Boxes	$12,000.
5 Bags	5,000.
1 Box	274.
Open Box	916.
"	500.
"	83.50
Foreign Coins	101.50
Change box	61.46
Bag from Custom Ho.	232.50
	$19,168.96

Gold:

~~4~~ Bags	$20,000.
1 "	270.
1 "	215.
1 "	1,702.50
1 "	65.00
	$22,252.50

Notes:

$500 + 8 mon. int. 2 pr. ct. ($6.67) = $506.67
100 + 5 50/100 " " 2 " " (.91) = 100.91
$607.58

Total $42,029.04

Post Office Fund.

Silver:

2 Boxes	$2,000.00
1 open do.	349.
1 " "	770.
1 " "	210.
1 "	500.
1 "	115.78
1 "	260.
2 Bags	1,000.
1 "	250.
1 " Foreign	600.
1 "	216.
1 "	207.39
Dimes & 2 dimes	52.50
	6,530.67

Gold:

	$2,000.
	700.
	522.50 = 3,222.50
	$9,753.17

Dec 5. 1870.

Geo. F. Downing,
Deputy Clerk

Mint of the United States.
Dec. 3, 1840.

Sir,

The amount of gold remaining uncoined at the Mint, on the 31st of October last, was $38,888.

Deposits in November.

Foreign Bullion	$3,279.
Foreign Coins	68,148.
U. States Bullion	8,185.62
do. Coins (Old Issue?)	607	80,219.
		$119,107

Coinage in November.

In half eagles	53,870.
Remaining uncoined, Nov. 30. 1840.	$65,237

R. M. P.
Director

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

P.S. Of the above balance, of $65,237, $45,000 was Coined, in eagles yesterday.

Mint of the U States
Treasurer's Office Dec 2d 1840.

Sir,

Agreeably to your request of the 30th ult, I herewith furnish you a corrected statement of the Bullion Acc. shewing the true balance on the 28th ult.

The books of the Mint give the correct balance of the 30th Sept ($398,697.01) and the error arose from the Clerk taking the amount found on a rough memorandum of the Bullion Acc, where he had inadvertently stated the balance as $318,697.01.

Very respectfully
Your obt. Servt

To
Wm. Selden Esq
Treasurer of the U.S.

Mint of the U. S.,
Dec. 31, 1840.

Sir,

Your letter of the 28th inst., making inquiries respecting certain anomalies observed in the Market-price of Portuguese & old American gold coins, was referred by the Assayer, for information; and I now take the liberty of sending their note to me enclosed, as the most satisfactory reply which it is in our power at the Mint to make to your inquiries.

R. M. P.
Director.

(to)
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

Mint U.S.
Feb. 27/41.

Dear Sir,

Your letter of yesterday, inquiring whether we had among the rejected machinery here, a ~~cutting~~-press that might be employed for cutting the trimmings of door-locks, has been referred by me to Mr. Peale, and he answers that we have not now left any press that could be applied to the desired purpose, ~~nor a~~ press, of any kind, that could be spared, as we have painted with the old machinery that has been replaced by new, in our present operations.

R. M. P.

W. D. Ingham, Esq.

Mint U. S.
Feb. 27th, 1841.

Sir;

I have the honor respectfully to request that you will issue your warrant in favor of the Treasurer of the Mint, for Ten thousand dollars, ($10,000.) the balance remaining undrawn of the appropriation for 1840, for Incidental and Contingent Expenses.

R. M. Patterson
Director.

To Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

New York 26 Feb 1

Robt Patterson M.D

Dr Sir

I have been requested to enquire of you whether there is not among the old cast off machinery of the Mint, a press which has been used for cutting the coins out of the plates, which would answer for cutting the linnings of door locks. — Supposing that such a press could be had at less expense than a new one The N. Hope Lock company would be glad to avail themselves of the opportunity of getting it —
I shall be in town next week if you can leave an answer at the Washington office it will much oblige yours

F. D. Ingham

Treasury Department
First Comptroller's Office
Oct 3d 1841

Sir,

Your account in relation to Ordinary Receipts & Expenditures for the 1st Qr 1841 has been adjusted at the Treasury and a balance of $121 311 62 stated to be due from you to the United States
The Balance acknowledged by you to be due $43.811.32
Add, This sum overcharged for Contingent
Expenses 4th Qr 1839 .30
" Warrants not since this account was
rendered & consequently not credited by
you viz
No 5634 dated Augt 15 1840 4,000.—
" 6224 " Oct 12 " 10.000.—
" 6391 " Nov 3d " 50.000.—
" 6615 " Dec 11 " 16.700.—
Dollars 121.311 62

Very Respectfully
S. R. Barker
Comptroller

William Lindsay Esq
Treasurer
U S Mint Philada

Mint of the U. S.
Feb. 18. 1841.

Sir,

After the payment of the bullion drafts of which we have notice, our coinage account will stand as follows:-

On hand in Silver Coins $49,436.
" " " Gold " 57,872.97

The remainder of the bullions, amounting to $76,145.90, is in its transit through the various operations of the Mint, and the amount is as low as, under ordinary circumstances, it can be reduced, and much lower than when the Mint is fully supplied with bullion for coinage.

I have deemed it important to lay before you the above statement.

Very respectfully,
your faithful servant,
R. M. Patterson,
Director.

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

Memorandum of the Value & Standard weight of all the Coins of Gold & Silver, delivered by the Chief Coiner to the Treasurer of the Mint of the United States, and the excess and deficiency in weight of each delivery during the year 1840.

Date	Value		Legal weight		Excess	Deficiency
Gold	Dollars	cts	Ounces	dwt	oz. dwt	oz. dwt
Jan'y 27	17,170	00	922	888	.132	
" 30	28,985	00	1557	944	.116	
Feby 6	46,585	00	2503	943	.607	
Mar. 4	25,430	00	1366	863	.307	
" 18	56,850	00	3055	688	.092	
" 21	19,370	00	1041	137	.013	
Apl. 4	29,230	00	1571	112		.222
May 19	55,000	00	2956	250		.080
" 26	22,845	00	1227	919	.121	
June 5	26,100	00	1402	875	.145	
" 8	31,060	00	1669	475	.485	
" 29	15,540	00	835	275	.095	
" 30	35,890	00	1929	089	.331	
July 9	48750	00	2620	312		.242
Aug't 4	45,000	00	2418	750	.280	
Sept 3	70,010	00	3763	038	.202	
" 21	24,302	50	1306	260	.100	
" 30	19,580	00	1052	425	.375	
Oct. 16	100,000	00	5375	000	.670	
" 20	124140	00	6672	525		.835
" 22	68,000	00	3655	000		.020
" 23	56,360	00	3029	350	.640	
" 26	33,780	00	1815	675		.395
" 31	41,505	00	2230	894	.716	
	1,041,482	50	55,979	687	5.427	1.794

Date	Value		Legal Weight		Excess	Deficiency
Gold	Dollars	cts	Ounces	dwt	oz. dwt.	oz dwt
Nov'r 16	30,000	00	1612	500		.250
" 20	23870	00	1283	013		.243
Dec't 2	45,000	00	2418	750		.050
" 15	36,160	00	1943	600	.040	
" 31	30,925	00	1662	219		.119
	165,955	00	8920	082	.040	662
	1,041,482	50	55,979	687	5.427	1.794
Total	1,207,437	50	64,899	769	5.467	2.456

Date	Value		Legal Weight		Excess	Deficiency
Silver	Dollars	cts	Ounces	dwt	oz. dwt.	oz. dwt.
Feby 6	31000	00	26,640	65		.80
" 25	61000	00	52,421	85	.70	
Mar. 10	60,000	00	51,562	50	2.45	
" 24	70,000	00	60,156	25		.05
" 30	35,000	00	30,078	15	1.00	
" 31	35,000	00	30,078	10	.15	
" "	74,000	00	63,593	75		1.55
Apl. 25	5,000	00	4296	90		.110
" 27	18,000	00	15,468	75		.35
May 20	23,500	00	20,195	30		2.00
" 21	56,000	00	48,125	00		.50
" 23	13,100	00	11,257	85		.35
June 3	23,500	00	20,195	30		
" 15	8,000	00	6,875	00		.10
" 18	47,000	00	40390	65		.25
	560,100	00	481,336	00	4.30	6.35

Date	Value		Legal Weight		Excess	Deficiency
Silver	Dollars	cts	Ounces	dwt	oz. dwt.	oz. dwt.
June 23	14,000	00	12,031	25	.20	
" 30	142,500	00	12,246	10		.45
July 21	43,000	00	36,953	15		.20
" 28	63,000	00	54,140	60		.20
Aug't 12	39,000	00	33,515	65		.65
" 26	35,000	00	30,078	10	.70	
" 27	10,600	00	9,109	40		1.05
Sept. 3	18,100	00	15554	70		1.15
" 5	22,000	00	18,906	25	.10	
" 28	47750	00	41,035	15		.65
" 30	1,000	00	859	35		.30
Oct. 28	41,000	00	35,231	35		.75
Nov. 3	45,500	00	39101	55		1.75
" 9	25750	00	22,128	95		1.80
" 21	13,500	00	11,601	55		1.75
" 25	15,000	00	12890	60		.60
Dec 19	12,500	00	10,742	20		.85
" 31	7553	00	6,490	85		.05
	468,503	00	402619	75	1.00	12.20
	560,100	00	481,336	00	4.30	6.35
	1,028603	00	883955	75	5.30	18.55
	Excess of weight in Gold Coins					3.011
	Deficiency of Weight in Silver Coins					13.25

Memorandum. The weight of silver coins delivered, in 1840, was 883,955.75 oz. and their value $1,025,603.00. As these were of different denominations, the exact legal allowance for deviation from the weight cannot be stated, but the accuracy of the work may be judged from the following estimates. — The limit of allowance on the whole weight, would be

If all had been dollars = 205 oz.
" " half-dollars = 273 "
" " quarter-dollars = 410 "
" " dimes = 514 "
" " half-dimes = 1025 "

The real deficiency was 13.25 oz., being therefore very far within the law.

—

The weight of gold coins delivered was 64,899.769 oz., and their value 1,207,437.50 dollars. — The allowance limited by law on the whole amount would be,

If all had been eagles = 12.07 oz.
" " half-eagles = 18.11 "
" " quarter-eagles = 24.14 "

There was really an excess of 3.011 oz. — being a deviation far within the limit fixed by law.

—

Memorandum of the Value and Standard weight of all the Gold Coins delivered by the Chief Coiner to the Treasurer of the Mint of the United States; and the excess and deficiency in weight of each delivery during the year 1840.

Date	Value		Legal Weight		Excess	Deficiency	Legal limit
Eagles.	Dollars	cts	Ounces	dec.	Oz. dec	Oz. dec	Oz. dec.
March 18	56,850	00	3,055	688	.092		.568
" 21	19,370	00	1,041	137	.013		.194
April 4	29,230	00	1,571	112		.222	.292
May 19	55,000	00	2,956	250		.080	.550
June 5	26,100	00	1,402	875	.145		.261
" 8	31,060	00	1,669	475	+ .485		.311
" 29	15,540	00	835	275	.095		.155
" 30	19,120	00	1,027	700	.190		.191
July 9	48,750	00	2,620	312		.242	.487
Sept. 3	49,200	00	2,644	500	.070		.492
" 30	19,580	00	1,052	425	+ .375		.196
Dec. 2	45,000	00	2,418	750		.050	.450
" 16	36,160	00	1,943	600	.040		.362
" 31	22,420	00	1205	075		.125	.224
	473,380	00	25444	174	1.505	.719	4.734

Legal limit for Eagles = thousands of dollars mult. × .011 oz.

Date	Value		Legal Weight		Excess	Deficiency	Legal limit
Half Eagles.							
Jany 27	17170	00	922	888	.132		.258
" 30	28,985	00	1557	944	.116		.435
Feby. 6	46,585	00	2503	943	.607		.699
March 4	25430	00	1366	863	.307		.381
June 30	16770	00	901	388	.142		.252
Augt 4	45000	00	2418	750	.280		.675
Amt. car^d forw^d	179940	00	9671	776	1.584		
Amt. brot. forw^d	179940	00	9671	776	1.584		
Sept. 3	20810	00	1118	537	.133		.312
Oct. 16	100000	00	5375	000	.670		1.500
" 20	124140	00	6672	525		.835	1.862
" 22	68000	00	3655	000		.020	1.020
" 23	56360	00	3029	350	.640		.845
" 26	33780	00	1815	675		.395	.507
" 31	41505	00	2230	894	+ .716		.622
Nov. 16	30000	00	1612	500		.250	.450
" 20	23870	00	1283	013		.243	.358
Dec. 31	8505	00	457	144	.006		.128
	686,910	00	36,921	414	3.749	1.743	10.303

Legal limit for Half eagles = thousands of dollars mult. × .015 oz.

Date	Value		Legal Weight		Excess	Deficiency	Legal limit
Quarter Eagles							
May 26	22845	00	1227	919	.121		.457
Sept. 21	24302	50	1306	260	.100		.486
	47,147	50	2,534	179	.221		.943

Legal limit for Quarter eagles = thousands of dollars mult. × .020 oz.

Memorandum of the Value and Standard weight of all the Silver Coins delivered by the Chief Coiner to the Treasurer of the Mint of the United States; and the excess and deficiency in weight of each delivery during the year 1840.

Date	Value		Legal weight		Excess	Deficiency	Legal limit
Dollars	Dollars	cts	Ounces	dec	oz dec	oz dec	oz. dec.
July 21	12500	00	10742	15	.15		2.5
Nov 3	26000	00	22343	75		.75	5.2
" 25	15000	00	12890	60		.60	3.
Dec 19	8000	00	4296	85		.15	1.
" 31	2505	00	2152	75		.10	.5
	61005	00	52426	10	.15	1.50	12.2
Half Dollars							
Feby 6	31000	00	26640	65		.80	9.3
" 25	61000	00	52421	85	.70		18.3
March 10	60000	00	51562	50	2.45		18.
" 24	70000	00	60156	25		.05	21.
" 30	35000	00	30078	15	1.00		10.5
" 31	79000	00	67890	65	1.00		23.7
May 21	56000	00	48125	00		.50	16.8
June 3	15000	00	12890	60		.05	4.5
" 18	47000	00	40390	60		.20	14.1
" 30	10500	00	9023	50		.35	3.15
Sealy 21	16000	00	13750	00		.15	4.8
" 28	54000	00	46406	25	.25		16.2
Augt 12	24000	00	20625	00		.30	7.2
" 26	35000	00	30078	10	.70		10.5
Sept. 5	22000	00	18906	25	.10		6.6
" 28	43000	00	36953	10		.30	12.9
Amt forw	658500	00	565898	45	6.20	2.70	

Legal Limit = Number of dollars x 0.3

Date	Value		Legal weight		Excess	Deficiency	Legal limit
Half Dollars	Dollars	cts	Ounces	dec	oz dec	oz dec	oz. dec.
Amt. brot forw.	658,500	00	565898	45	6.20	2.70	
October 28	37000	00	31796	85		1.00	11.1
Nov 9	17000	00	14609	40		.50	5.1
Dec 31	5001	00	4300	30		.05	1.5
	717504	00	616,605	00	6.20	4.25	215.25
Quarter Dollars							
June 3	2000	00	1718	75		.10	.5
" 15	8000	00	6875	00		.10	3.2
" 23	14000	00	12031	25	.20		5.6
July 21	8000	00	6875	00	.15		3.2
Augt 12	15000	00	12890	65		.35	6.
Dec 31	31	75	27	25			.01
	47031	75	40417	90	.35	.55	18.81
Dimes							
March 31	22750	00	19550	80		1.90	11.37
April 27	13000	00	11171	85		.15	6.5
May 20	23500	00	20195	30		2.00	11.75
June 3	6500	00	5585	95	.15		3.25
July 28	9000	00	7734	35		.45	4.5
Augt 27	10,600	00	9109	40		1.05	5.3
Sept 3	11500	00	9882	80		.85	5.75
" 28	250	00	214	85		.10	.12
" 30	1000	00	859	35		.30	.5
Amt over	98100	00	84304	65	.15	6.80	

Legal Limit for Quarters = Number of dollars x 0.45

Legal Limit for Dimes = Number of dollars x 0.375

Date	Value		Legal weight		Excess	Deficiency	Legal limit
Dimes	Dollars	cts	Ounces	dw	oz. dw	Oz. dw	
	98100	00	84304	65	.15	6.80	
Octr. 28	4000	00	3437	50	.25		2.0
Novr. 3	13250	00	11386	70		.65	6.62
" 21	13000	00	11171	90		1.70	6.5
Decr. 19	7500	00	6445	30		.65	3.75
" 30	8	00	6	90			
	135858	00	116752	95	.40	9.80	67.93
Half Dimes							
March 31	7250	00	6230	50		.60	7.25
April 25	5000	00	4296	90		.40	5.
" 27	5000	00	4296	85		.20	5.
May 23	13100	00	11257	80		.30	13.1
June 30	3750	00	3222	65		.15	3.75
July 21	6500	00	5585	95		.30	6.5
Sept 3	6600	00	5671	85		.25	6.6
" 28	4500	00	3867	20		.55	4.5
Novr. 3	6250	00	5371	10		.35	6.25
" 9	8750	00	7519	50		1.25	8.75
" 21	500	00	429	70		.10	.5
~~Decr. 19~~	~~9500~~	~~00~~	~~6445~~	~~25~~			
" 30	4	25	3	65			
	67204	25	57753	65		4.45	67.20

Legal limit for Half dimes = thousands of dollars × 1. oz

U.S. Mint Feb 12/41.

Dear Sir,

In order to obtain the small coins for which you write, it will be necessary for you to get from the Secretary of the Treasury, a bullion draft on the Mint, for the amount. Supposing that you will be able to do so in the way you propose, the Trustees have ordered $100 in quarter dollars, half dimes to be put up for you and these and directed according to your wishes.

R. M. P.
D. M

Hon. Henry Hubbard,
U.S. Senate.

Bell Hughes presents his respects to Mr Patterson, and having considered his propositions, will be happy to go on to Washington and execute for the mint a medallic likeness of General Harrison for 60 dollars. this sum will of course include all the expenses of going there, and indeed everything connected with its execution— and two perfect Casts— one in plaster the other in Ivory composition— Mr Hughes will require 20 dollars to go there ten given to Mrs Hughes on his taking the first sitting of the General— and the balance on the delivery of the work. which shall be within twelve ~~days~~ months of— Starting Mr Hughes is thus explicit— because his funds would not enable him to go on any other terms— nothing would give him more pleasure than to

receive the order at this present time for business is dull and it would be a very desirable introduction.

Mr Hughes will be obliged by the favor of an early answer.

66 South 6th
Thursday noon -

P.S. Mr Hughes can obtain from Mr Fox at Washington a letter to Jemmat Hanson which will insure him an immediate sitting -

Mint U.S. —
Feb. 11th, 1841.

Sir,

The letter to you, of the 6th inst., from C. C. Lee Esq., respecting the medal voted to ~~his father~~ ~~Gen~~ Major Henry Lee, in 1779, and which you referred to me for information, has been duly received, and I have now to present to you the following statement.

The dies for Gen. Lee's medal were ~~prepared~~ cut, about the year 1791, by J. Wright, an artist who ~~did the first work~~ worked at that time for the Mint. The head die is now ~~at the Mint~~ in our possession, and I send you an impression taken from it in fusible alloy, from which you will see that the head, though not a superior work of art, is by no means "execrable." The die, however, is not in a condition for striking a medal in gold, if one should be required. It appears to have cracked in hardening, and to have been also injured in an attempt to make a hub from it. The ~~tail~~ reverse die is not in existence, and, according to the description given by Dr. Meade, contained nothing more than an inscription.

Our former venerable Chief Coiner, Mr. Eckfeldt, to whom we refer for all Mint reminiscences, is under the impression that no gold medal was ever struck from those dies, and the state of the die now before me goes far to confirm this impression.

An original likeness of Colonel Henry Lee, taken by C. W. Peale, is now in the collection at the Philadelphia Museum, and its resemblance to the head on the die is sufficiently apparent. From these authorities a new medal might be prepared, should an appropriation for the purpose be made by Congress.

The plan which I would recommend is to have a medallion head modelled in clay, — cast in iron, — and then cut in steel by the portrait-lathe at the Mint. A medal of Franklin, the obverse die of which was formed by this process, and of which I sent you a copy, is, in my judgment, the best head ever struck at the Mint.

The appropriation necessary in this way for making the gold medal voted to Gen. Henry Lee, I estimate at $750, viz. $500 for the dies, and $250 for the gold, collar, case, &c. The appropriation for the medal voted to Col. Croghan, (the last, I think, of this class,) was $2050, viz. $1800 for the dies, and $250 for the [illegible]. The reverse, indeed, exhibited a battle scene instead of a simple legend, but it was stipulated that if the reverse die should break an additional charge of $600 should be made.

I return to you Mr. Lee's letter.

R. M. P.
D. M.

To/
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

Mint of the United States,
Feb. 10, 1841.

Sir;

I have the honor to submit the following report of the fineness, and value by weight, of certain gold & silver coins specified in the Acts of Congress of April 10, 1806, & June 28, 1834.

Gold Coins.	Fineness, in thousandths	Value, per dwt.
Great Britain Sovereign	915.5	Cts. 94.62
France, pieces of 40 & 20 Francs	899	92.92
Spain, doubloon & parts	866	89.51
Mexico, do.	866	89.51
Peru, do.	868	89.71
Chili, do.	868	89.71
Columbia, doubloons of Bogota	870	89.92
" do. " Popayan	858	88.68
New Granada, doubloons of 1837–'38	871	90.02
Bolivia, do.	870	89.92
Central America do.	830	85.77
La Plata do.	815	84.24
Portugal, Johannes & half	914	94.46
" Crown (of 5,000 reis) and half since 1838	914	94.46
Brazil, pieces of 6,400 reis, of 1838,	914	94.46

Ore

Silver Coins.	Fineness in Thousandths	Value per Oz.
Spain, dollar of the Peninsula	900.	116.36
" , pillar-dollar of Spanish-America	898	116.10
France, Crown (Act) to be coined in 1793	909	117.53
" five franc piece	900	116.36
Mexico, dollar, average of various Mints, and in the proportion usually presented here	897	115.97
Peru, Potosi dollar	901	116.49
Chili, dollar	906	117.13
Central America, dollar	896	115.84
Brazil, restamped dollar of 960 reis	898	116.10

The above report corresponds with my last, presented April 2, 1840, — no Change having since occurred.

Very respectfully,
your faithful servant,
R. M. Patterson,
Director.

[to]
Hon. Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury

Mint of the United States,
Feb. 10, 1841.

Sir,

The amount of gold remaining uncoined at the Mint, on the 31st of December, 1840, as adjusted in my last report, was $10,696.

Deposites in January:

Foreign Coins,	$8,169.	
Foreign Bullion,	3,112.	
U. S. Bullion,	10,656.	21,837.
		$32,533.
No gold Coinage in January,		000.
Remaining uncoined Jan. 31,		$32,533.

R. M. P.
Director.

Sec. of Treasury.

Washington Feby 10. 1841

Robert M. Patterson Esq

Dear Sir

I want to pro-
cure from the Mint a thousand
dollars in change say 1/3 in
quarter dollars. 1/3 in dimes & 1/3
in half dimes — Can I be ac-
commodated - I can depute
in the office of Register General
at Boston to your order
the $1000 - or I can indorse
the Secty of the Treasury a Sight Draft
me a Draft on Boston
and give me a Draft on

the Mint — I shall commit the
Specie the change put into a
Sealed Box with a direction
upon the out side to Henry
Hubbard. Charlestown, No. 69
And on my return from
Washington I will call at
the Mint and take charge
of the Box — I have to re-
quest you to inform me
whether you can accommodate
me — I am Sir very
respectfully
Your Obt Servt
Henry Hubbard

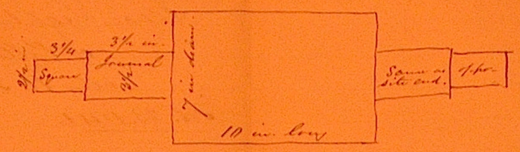
Mint of the United States,
Feb. 4, 1841.

Sir,

I have the honor to request your attendance, at the Mint, on Monday next, the 8th inst., at 9½ o'clock in the morning, as a Commissioner, under the law, for the Annual Assay.

Very respectfully,
your faithful servant,
R. M. P.
Director.

To
Hon. Jos. Hopkinson,
Judge of the U.S. Dist. Court,
for the Eastern Dist. of Penn.
John M. Read, Esq.,
Attorney of the U.S. for the
Eastern Dist. of Penn.
Calvin Blythe, Esq.,
Collector of the Port of
Philadelphia



Mint U. S. Feb. 23d, 1841

Sir,

When you visited the Mint yesterday, you mentioned that you had succeeded perfectly, at your foundry at Pittsburg, in casting and turning chilled rolls, ~~and you offered~~ an article for which the Mint has been heretofore dependent upon England. You offered, also, to make us a pair, for trial, at a cost not exceeding 12½ cents a pound. I now send you, marked on the above figure, the dimensions of the rolls which we use, and have to request that you will furnish the Mint with a pair, as you proposed.

R. M. P.
D.

To/ Isaac Lightner, Esq.

Dupl.
Orig. p. Metamora

U. S. Consulate
Amsterdam 31 Jan.y 1841.

To the Hon.ble Director of the U. S. Mint.

Philadelphia.

Sir!

Agreeably to your request made by your Letter of 22 April 1839. I sent you by two different Vessels duplicate Sets of the Gold, Silver & Copper Coins of the Netherlands both of which have duly come in your possession as appears by your Letter of 26 Novbr 1839. The amount of these two Sets being together, Guilders 30 83/100 or at the Exch.ge of 40 c $ 15 93/100 I have placed, according to your desire, to the debit of the account of the United States with me, — but to my regret I learn by a letter from Mr Pleasanton 5th Auditor at the Treasury Departmt, that the Secretary of the Treasury has rejected this Sum from my Acct. and stated that I ought to apply to you for it's reimbursement. I therefore beg of you to pay over this amount of $ 15 93/100 to the Treas.y Department.

/.

so that my accounts can remain as they were or if
this cannot be done, then please have this sum paid
to me by some Mercantile house here.

At all events I shall feel obliged by
your decision, as a few Days before the
Settlement thereof takes place so as to enter it
in my books in conformity.

I have the honor to remain respectfully
Sir!

Your most obed.t Serv.t

[redacted]
W. Vanderbrook
U. S. Consul

U. S. Consulate
Amsterdam 31 January 1840

To the Hon.ble Director of the
United States Mint,
Philadelphia
Sir,

Agreeably to your re-
quest made by your letter of 22 April
1839 - I sent you by two different
vessels, duplicate sets of the Gold
Silver & Copper coins of the Netherlands
both of which have duly come in
your possession as by your letter
of 26 Novbr 1839. The amount of
these two Sets being together Guilders
39 $\frac{33}{100}$ or at the Exchg of 40c $15.$ $\frac{93}{100}$.
I have placed, according to your
desire to the debit of the account
of the United States with me - but
to my regret I learn by a letter
from W. Pleasanton, 5th Auditor at
the Treasury Deptt, that the Secretary
of the Treasury has rejected this Sum
from my account, and stated that

that I ought to apply to you for its reimbursement. — I therefore beg of you to pay over this amount of $15.72/100 to the Treasury Department so that my accounts can remain as they were, or if this cannot be done, then please have this Sum paid out to me by some Mercantile House here.

At all events I shall feel obliged by your dropping me a few lines stating if and how the Settlement thereof takes place so as to enter it in my books in conformity. I have the honor to remain respectfully

Sir

Your most Obedt

Servt

W Braudenbrock

U. S. Consul

Treasury Department
First Auditor's Office
January 31st 1841

Sir

I send the within bill of the amount received by the Chief Coiner for old Coining presses and other Machinery of the Mint sold, with a request that it be returned with a certificate of the Auctioneer — The auctioneers Certificate should accompany all Cases of a similar kind I will also thank you to explain the item of "premium paid for specie"

I am very respectfully
Your obt Servt
J. Miller
3

S. Roach
Treasurer of the Mint
Phila

Mint U.S. Jan. 30th, 1841

Sir,

Your letter of the 25th inst. was duly received, with the accompanying letters of appointment to Prof. A. Chapman and Wm. H. Swain Esqr. and Prof. Joseph Henry, as Commissioners to attend the next annual assay at the Mint. Those letters were sent to the gentlemen named, and I have now the pleasure to state that they have all consented to perform the duty asked of them.

R. M. P.

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury
Sec. of Treasury

Mint U.S.
Jan. 29th, 1841

Sir,

The Treasurer of the Mint has handed to me your letter of the 27th inst, in which you mention that you returned to him "Voucher no. 68, bill for the payment of $100 to John R. Bates, for the use of a lot adjoining the Mint for placing wood, &c.," and ask an explanation in regard to the necessity of this expenditure.

As the expenditure was authorized by my warrant, I cheerfully give the explanation asked for - hoping you, if any difficulty shall still remain on your mind, to refer to the Secretary of the Treasury, as the same subject has been more than once presented to him, more than once, in a different form.

The lot in question is a large one adjoining the Mint, the purchase of which, or a part of which, I have repeatedly urged upon the government. Its plans sent to the Secretary, and to the Committee of Ways & Means, I stated that there was unfortunately on your attached to the Mint, and as place at all suitable for piling away our winter's supply of wood, &c. This is not only an inconve-

mean, but an actual loss to the Establishment, since a full provision of this fuel cannot be made in the Season when it is cheapest.

The bill of $100 is for one years rent of a lot which cost the Boats $25,000. It is a most moderate charge certainly, and glad would we be if the arrangement could be continued; but I am sorry to say that it is the Boats's intention to sell the lot in the Spring, and that the government is likely to lose not only the temporary use of it, but the opportunity of securing the permanent possession of it for the Mint.

I hope that, with the above explanation, no further difficulty will be made as to the payment in question.

R. M. P.
D

To
Jesse Miller Esq.
First Auditor

Treasury of the United States
Treasurers Office, January 29th 1841

Sir.

I herewith forward you, Warrants No. 38. 39. 40 & 48. the three first have been as you requested, signed by the Treasurer, and as to the last (in favor of John R. Coates) for One hundred dollars, I refer you to his letter enclosed, which Stuart will explain, the matter to your entire satisfaction.

Very respectfully,
Your obdt. Servt.
Wm Selby
Treasurer

Lyle Mueller Esqre
Chief Clerk of the Treasury

Mint U. S. — Jan 28, 1841.

Sir,

An examination of the weekly register of the watch-clock has repeatedly shown a dangerous want of vigilance on the part of the watchmen. It has frequently occurred that for three hours together the clock has not been visited, and it is to be inferred that, during this time, the watchmen were asleep, and thus guilty of an inexcusable neglect of duty. This neglect almost always occurs in the first part of the night, namely from 10 until 1 o'c inclusive. I write this note, to warn you that if such want of vigilance continues, decided measures shall be taken to remedy the evil.

R. M. S.

Director

To/
Abraham Brunner
Watchman of the Mint

Treasury Department
First Auditor's office
January 27. 1841

Sir

Herewith you will receive Voucher numbered 48, being for the payment of $100. to John H. Coates "for the use of a lot adjoining the Mint for placing wood &c" — As it is an expense of an unusual character I have deemed it proper to return it to you in order that you may afford some explanation in regard to its necessity —
I also return you Vouchers numbered respectively 38, 39 & 40 in order that they may be perfected — the Director's name to the warrants being wanted, and request that your immediate attention may be given to this as the adjustment of the account will be delayed until the Vouchers shall be returned

I am very respectfully
Your Obd.t Serv.t

J. Miller

Wm Ford Lay Esq
Treasurer Mint

Treasury Department
Jany 25th 1841.

Sir,

The President has directed three Commissioners to be appointed, in addition to the Judge and District Attorney of the U States for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania and the Collector of the port of Philadelphia, for the purposes mentioned in the 32d section of the Act of Congress of 18th Jany 1837, entitled "An Act supplementary to the Act, entitled "An Act establishing a Mint and regulating the coins of the United States", — and I herewith transmit their letters of appointment with a request, that you will cause them to be delivered and forwarded to the Gentlemen appointed.

Very respectfully
Your obt Servt

Levi Woodbury
Secry of Treasy

P.S. You will receive by this days mail a box of Coins from the Br. Mint at New Orleans, and another will be sent you by next Mail

Dr R. M. Patterson
Director of the Mint, Philadelphia.

26th CONGRESS, 2d Session. Doc. No. 75. HO. OF REPS. Executive.

OPERATIONS OF THE MINT, 1840—AND MEDALS.

MESSAGE

FROM

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,

TRANSMITTING

A report of the operations of the Mint of the United States and its branches during the year 1840: also, an inquiry whether authority shall be given to the Mint to strike off copies of medals given for meritorious services in the war of the Revolution, and in the late war, &c.

JANUARY 25, 1841.

So much as relates to the operations of the Mint and branches, referred to the Committee of Ways and Means; and so much as relates to medals, to the Committee on the Library.

To the House of Representatives of the United States:

I transmit, herewith, to the House of Representatives of the United States, a report from the Director of the Mint, exhibiting the operations of that institution during the year 1840; and I have to invite the special attention of Congress to that part of the director's report in relation to the over-valuation given to the gold in foreign coins by the act of Congress of June 28, 1834, "regulating the value of certain foreign gold coins within the United States."

Applications have been frequently made at the Mint for copies of medals voted at different times by Congress to the officers who distinguished themselves in the war of the Revolution and in the last war, the dies for which are deposited in the Mint: and it is submitted to Congress whether authority shall be given to the Mint to strike off copies of those medals, in bronze or other metal, to supply those persons making application for them, at a cost not to exceed the actual expense of striking them off.

WASHINGTON, *January* 22, 1841. M. VAN. BUREN.

MINT OF THE UNITED STATES,
Philadelphia, January 20, 1841.

SIR: I have the honor to present, as the annual report required of me by law, the following statement of the operations of the Mint and its branches during the past year:

The coinage executed at the Mint in 1840 amounted to $2,260,667, comprising $1,207,437 in gold, $1,028,603 in silver, and $24,627 in copper coins, and composed of 7,053,084 pieces. (Statement A.)

The deposites of gold within the year amounted to $1,201,998, of which $176,766 was derived from the mines of the United States. (Statements B and C.)

The deposites of silver amounted to $1,033,070, and were derived principally from Mexico. (Statement D.)

By successive improvements in the machinery and processes of the Mint, introduced during the last few years, its means for executing a large amount of coinage have been greatly increased; and it is matter of regret, that, in consequence of the diminished supply of bullion, these means have been of late so inadequately employed. The Mint could readily have coined twelve millions in the past year, instead of little more than two and a quarter, without any considerable advance in its expenses.

At the close of the year, the public funds in our vaults, under the laws authorizing deposites with the Mint for the purchase of metals for coinage, and for securing prompt payments to depositors, amounted to $389,198 25 in gold and silver. The amount withdrawn during the year, on Treasury drafts, was $153,916 76; and the amount added, $26,417 97.

At the New Orleans branch mint, the coinage for 1840 amounted to $915,600, comprising $217,500 in gold, and $698,100 in silver coins, and composed of 3,446,900 pieces. (Statement E.)

The deposites for coinage during the year amounted to $164,929 in gold, and $666,676 in silver. (Statement F.)

It gives me great satisfaction to state that this branch of the Mint has escaped during the last season the disasters which have before so seriously interfered with its efficiency. Its operations have gone on throughout the year; and as it appears to have made prompt and full returns for all the bullion brought to it for coinage, it must be considered as having performed its functions successfully.

The branch mint at Charlotte received during the year deposites of gold to the value of $124,726, exclusive of a few small deposites at the end of the year, of which the value has not been reported. The amount of its coinage was $127,055, composed of 18,994 half-eagles and 12,834 quarter-eagles. (Statements E and F.)

The branch mint at Dahlonega received during the year deposites of gold to the value of $121,858, and its coinage amounted to $123,310, composed of 22,896 half-eagles and 3,532 quarter-eagles. (Statements E and F.)

The deposites at these mints do not differ materially from those of the two preceding years; nor does there appear, from other evidence, to have been any considerable change, during this period, in the production of gold from the mines of the United States.

There are two circumstances which serve to diminish the amount of gold coinage at our mints, and which seem to me to call for legislative interference. One of these is the private coinage known to be carried on in the neighborhood of the mines to a considerable extent. Assays repeatedly made at this Mint show that the coins thus fabricated are below the nominal value marked upon them; yet they circulate freely at this value, and therefore it must be more advantageous to the miner to carry his bullion to the private than the public mints. It seems strange that the

privilege of coining copper should be carefully confined by law to the General Government; while that of coining gold and silver, though withheld from the States, is freely permitted to individuals, with the single restriction that they must not imitate the coinage established by law.

The second circumstance adverted to, is the over-valuation given to the gold in foreign coins by the act of June 28, 1834. This act supposes the gold coins of Great Britain, Portugal, and Brazil to be 22 carats (corresponding to 916⅔ thousandths) fine—an assumption which is not confirmed by our assays. The British gold does not exceed 915¼ thousandths, and is not received at the Mint of France at more than 915. The gold coins of Portugal and Brazil vary from 913½ to 914½. All these coins, therefore, are virtually over-valued by the law; for what it states as a condition, is received and acted upon by the public as a fact. Indeed, even if the coins in question were of the assumed standard, they would still be rated too high, because our own standard was raised by the act of January 18, 1837, from 899.225 to 900. I have before invited attention to this subject in my annual reports, and have respectfully recommended, as I again do, that the act in question be repealed. This act is unnecessary, because the mints of the United States are abundantly sufficient for all the gold coinage required for circulation; it is inconvenient, because the foreign coins which it makes a legal tender do not correspond in value and denomination with our money of account; and it is erroneous and impolitic, because it stamps a higher value upon foreign gold than upon our own.

I have the honor to be, sir, with great respect, your faithful servant,

R. M. PATTERSON,
Director of the Mint.

To the PRESIDENT
of the United States.

A.

Statement of the coinage at the Mint of the United States, Philadelphia, in the year 1840.

Denominations.	Pieces.	Whole number of pieces.	Value.	Whole value.
GOLD.				
Eagles - - -	47,338	–	$473,380	
Half-eagles - -	137,382	–	686,910	
Quarter-eagles - -	18,859	–	47,147	
		203,579		$1,207,437
SILVER.				
Dollars - - -	61,005	–	61,005	
Half-dollars - -	1,435,008	–	717,504	
Quarter-dollars - -	188,127	–	47,032	
Dimes - - -	1,358,580	–	135,858	
Half-dimes - -	1,344,085	–	67,204	
		4,386,805		1,028,603
COPPER.				
Cents - - -	–	2,462,700	–	24,627
		7,053,084		2,260,667

B.

Statement of the deposites of gold for coinage at the Mint of the United States, Philadelphia, in the year 1840.

The deposites of gold for coinage amounted to - -			$1,201,998
Of which was received from the United States, viz:			
Virginia - - -	$38,995		
North Carolina - - -	36,804		
South Carolina - - -	5,319		
Georgia - - -	91,113		
Alabama - - -	4,431		
Tennessee - - -	104		
		$176,766	
Coins of the United States, old standard -		11,256	
Foreign bullion - - - -		209,629	
Foreign coins - - - -		800,487	
Jewelry - - - - -		3,860	
			1,201,998

C.

Statement of the annual amounts of deposites of gold, for coinage, at the Mint of the United States and its branches, from the mines of the United States.

Periods.	Deposited at the United States Mint, Philadelphia. Virginia.	North Carolina.	South Carolina.	Georgia.	Tennessee.	Alabama.	Various sources.	Total at United States Mint.	Deposited at the branch mints. Branch at Charlotte, North Carolina.	Branch at Dahlonega, Georgia.	Branch at New Orleans, Louisiana.	Total at branch mints.	Mint and branches. Total deposites of United States gold.
1824 -	-	85,000	-	-	-	-	-	85,000	-	-	-	-	85,000
1825 -	-	17,000	-	-	-	-	-	17,000	-	-	-	-	17,000
1826 -	-	20,000	-	-	-	-	-	20,000	-	-	-	-	20,000
1827 -	-	21,000	-	-	-	-	-	21,000	-	-	-	-	21,000
1828 -	-	46,000	-	-	-	-	-	46,000	-	-	-	-	46,000
1829 -	$2,500	134,000	$3,500	-	-	-	-	140,000	-	-	-	-	140,000
1830 -	24,000	204,000	26,000	$212,000	-	-	-	466,000	-	-	-	-	466,000
1831 -	26,000	294,000	22,000	176,000	$1,000	-	$1,000	520,000	-	-	-	-	520,000
1832 -	31,000	458,000	45,000	140,000	1,000	-	-	678,000	-	-	-	-	678,000
1833 -	104,000	475,000	66,000	216,000	7,000	-	-	868,000	-	-	-	-	868,000
1834 -	62,000	380,000	38,000	415,000	3,000	-	-	898,000	-	-	-	-	898,000
1835 -	60,400	263,500	42,400	319,900	100	-	12,200	698,500	-	-	-	-	698,500
1836 -	62,000	148,100	55,200	201,400	300	-	-	467,000	-	-	-	-	467,000
1837 -	52,100	116,900	29,400	83,600	-	-	-	282,000	-	-	-	-	282,000
1838 -	55,000	66,000	13,000	36,000	1,500	-	200	171,700	$127,000	$135,700	$700	$263,400	435,100
1839 -	57,600	53,500	6,300	20,300	300	$500	-	138,500	126,836	113,035	6,869	246,740	385,240
1840 -	38,995	36,804	5,319	91,113	104	4,431	-	176,766	124,726	121,858	2,835	249,419	426,185
	578,595	2,738,804	352,119	1,911,313	14,304	4,931	13,400	5,613,466	378,562	370,593	10,404	759,559	6,373,025

D.

Statement of the deposites of silver, for coinage, at the Mint of the United States, Philadelphia, in the year 1840.

The deposites of silver, for coinage, amounted to	-	$1,033,070
Of which there was in—		
Mexican dollars	$615,569	
Spanish and South American	30,793	
	110,149	
European coins	336,560	
Bullion and plate		
		1,033,070

E.

Statement of the amount of coinage at the branch mints in the year 1840.

Mints.	Gold.						Silver.						Total.	
	Half-eagles.	Quarter-eagles.	Number of pieces.	Value.	Half-dollars.	Quarter-dollars.	Dimes.	Half-dimes.	Number of pieces.	Value.	Whole number of pieces.	Whole value.
	Pieces.	*Pieces.*			*Pieces.*	*Pieces.*	*Pieces.*	*Pieces.*				
Charlotte, N. C.	15,994	12,894	31,828	$127,055	-	-	-	-	-	-	31,828	$127,055
Dahlonega, Ga.	22,580	3,532	26,128	153,310	-	-	-	-	-	-	26,128	153,310
New Orleans	30,400	26,500	56,900	917,500	855,100	425,300	1,175,000	935,000	3,390,300	$695,100	3,446,900	915,600
	72,909	43,556	114,856	467,865	855,100	425,300	1,175,000	935,000	3,390,300	695,100	3,505,156	1,165,965

F.

Statement of the amount of deposites, for coinage, at the branch mints in the year 1840.

Mints.	Gold.				Silver.				Total.	
	United States coins, old standard.	United States bullion.	Foreign coins.	Foreign bullion.	Total of gold.	Foreign coins.	Foreign bullion.	Total of silver.	Whole number of pieces.	Gold and silver.
	-	$124,736	-	-	$124,736	-	-	-	-	$124,736
	$318	121,558	$143,297	$15,449	131,858	$619,856	$46,830	666,676	666,676	798,534
	346	2,835			164,929					164,929
Charlotte, North Carolina	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dahlonega, Georgia	$318	$249,419	$143,297	$15,449	$411,513	$619,856	$46,830	666,676	1,078,189	$1,078,189
New Orleans, Louisiana	346									

G.

Recapitulation of deposites and coinage, at the Mint of the United States and its branches, in the year 1840.

Mints.	Deposites.					Coinage.									
	Gold.			Silver.	Total.	Gold.		Silver.		Copper.		Total.			
	U. S. gold.	Foreign gold.	Total of gold.	Value.	Value.	Pieces.	Value.	Pieces.	Value.	Pieces.	Value.	Pieces.	Value.		
Philadelphia, Pa.	$176,766	$1,025,232	$1,201,998	$1,033,070	$2,235,068	203,579	$1,207,437	4,386,805	$1,028,603	2,462,700	$24,627	7,053,084	$2,260,667		
Charlotte, N. C.	124,726	-	124,726	-	124,726	31,828	127,055	-	-	-	-	31,828	127,055		
Dahlonega, Ga.	121,858	-	121,858	-	121,858	26,428	123,310	-	-	-	-	26,428	123,310		
New Orleans, La.	2,835	162,094	164,929	666,676	831,605	56,600	217,500	3,390,300	698,100	-	-	3,446,900	915,600		
	426,185	1,187,326	1,613,511	1,699,746	3,313,257	318,435	1,675,302	7,777,105	1,726,703	2,462,700	24,627	10,558,240	3,426,632		

H.

Statement of the coinage at the Mint of the United States, for each successive period of ten years, from the commencement of its operations until December 31, 1840.

Periods.	GOLD.					SILVER.			
	Eagles.	Half-eagles.	Quarter-eagles.	Number of pieces.	Value.	Dollars.	Half-dollars.	Quarter-dollars.	Dimes.
	Pieces.	*Pieces.*	*Pieces.*			*Pieces.*	*Pieces.*	*Pieces.*	*Pieces.*
1793 to 1800	69,474	62,452	2,916	134,842	$1,014,290 00	1,257,458	327,062	6,146	96,706
1801 to 1810	63,118	514,272	19,281	596,671	3,250,742 50	182,059	6,401,973	554,899	423,765
1811 to 1820	-	633,302	-	633,302	3,166,510 00	-	11,294,842	721,853	1,429,267
1821 to 1830	-	368,126	24,805	393,111	1,903,092 50	-	32,057,426	572,731	4,856,512
1831 to 1840	92,786	2,897,795	947,828	3,938,409	17,786,405 00	62,305	46,132,259	5,347,673	10,460,045
	225,378	4,475,947	995,010	5,696,335	27,121,040 00	1,501,822	96,213,562	7,203,302	17,266,295

H—Continued.

Periods.	SILVER.			COPPER.				TOTAL.	
	Half-dimes.	Number of pieces.	Value.	Cents.	Half-cents.	Number of pieces.	Value.	Number of pieces.	Value.
	Pieces.			*Pieces.*	*Pieces.*				
1793 to 1800 - -	165,173	1,852,545	$1,440,454 75	7,644,703	588,759	8,233,462	$79,391 82	10,220,849	$2,534,136 57
1801 to 1810 - -	100,370	7,663,066	3,569,165 25	12,832,832	4,583,614	17,416,446	151,246 39	25,676,183	6,971,154 14
1811 to 1820 - -	-	13,445,962	5,970,810 95	19,084,287	63,140	19,147,427	191,156 57	33,226,691	9,328,479 52
1821 to 1830 - -	2,470,000	39,956,669	16,781,046 95	14,446,220	1,390,000	15,836,220	151,412 20	56,186,000	18,835,551 65
1831 to 1840 - -	16,661,935	78,661,217	26,344,454 00	33,824,621	815,200	34,639,821	342,322 21	117,242,437	44,473,181 21
	19,397,478	141,582,459	54,105,931 90	87,832,663	7,440,713	95,273,376	915,531 19	242,552,160	82,142,503 09

Recapitulation of the amount of coinage at the Mint of the United States and its branches, from the commencement of operations to December 31, 1840.

Commenced operations.	Mints.	Whole coinage, in pieces.	Whole coinage, in value.
1793 -	Philadelphia mint -	242,552,170	$82,142,503 09
1838 -	Charlotte branch mint -	94,248	373,987 50
1838 -	Dahlonega branch mint -	79,624	355,105 00
1838 -	New Orleans branch mint	6,250,930	1,183,003 00
		248,976,972	84,054,598 59

Girard Bank
Jan 23. 1841

Dear Sir,

The President of the Farmers Bank of Virginia at Winchester is desirous of receiving One hundred Dollars in cents, the keg to be directed to

Joseph H. Sherrard
Cashier F. Bk
Winchester
Va

which I will pay for. Will you be so good as to forward a keg for about that amount? the precise value of which I will pay you, when informed thereof.

Yours truly respectfully
Wm D Lewis Cas

R. M. Patterson Esq
Director U.S. Mint

January 2 1841

U S Mint
Phil^a Pa

Dft. No	6157	Maj. Hartman Bache	$ 40 38/100
" "	6158	Capt J J Abercrombie	— 250
" "	6159	Lt J H Carleton	— 100

(Bullion A/C)

(Private)

Mint U. S.
Jan 21st, 1841.

Sir,

I send herewith an official request for the appointment of the Additional Commissioners for our approaching Annual Assay, and I take the liberty to suggest the names of Prof. A. Chapman, of this city & Prof. Leonard Henry of Princeton, ~~&c~~

Respecting Chapman and Henry as men, of ~~you~~ whom I have, of great eminence, and as both, I believe, personally known to the President. Mr. M. Graind ~~is a youth~~ was formerly Cashier of the Bank of the United States, and is held in universal regard for his talent and high personal character. Messrs. Henry and M. Graine are of the brilliant school of political economy.

Yr. obt. Servt.
R. M. Patterson

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury
Sec. of Treasury.

Mint U. S.
Jan. 21. 1841

Sir,

As the Annual Assay is to be made at the Mint on the 8th of next Month, I have the honor respectfully to request that you will ask the attention of the President of the United States to the appointment of the additional Commissioners provided for in the 32d Section of the Act of Jan. 18, ~~1837~~ 1837.

Very respectfully,
Your faithful Servt,
R. M. P.

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury
Sec. of Treasury.

Bank of the United States

Jany 21. 1841

Wm. Findlay Esq
Treas[r] of the Mint

Dear Sir

I send by the Bearer, One hundred and twenty dollars for which I invite you to forward One Reg of Ent to "D. Spigg, Cashier, Merchants Bank of Baltimore" by the first opportunity, advising me when you send it.

I am very respy

A Gardner
Cash[r]

Bank of the U States
January 16 1841

R M Patterson Esquire
Director of the Mint U States
Philad

Dear Sir

A Draft of the Treasurer of the U States upon the Mint for $450 pay. of the Cashier of this Bank was received on the 13th inst. when he was absent from the City and being regularly remitted to us for a/c of the Treast was endorsed by myself officially as all other drafts & remittances uniformly are in his absence. I am informed that although you have paid the check you now require the endorsement of the Cashier. this of course would imply an imperfection in the previous endorsement which I cannot for one moment admit inasmuch as it might in future cases of absence or sickness of the Cashier absolutely prevent the negotiation or collection of all remittances received during the continuance of such absence or inability to sign. I therefore beg that you will give instructions in the proper department to prevent the recurrence of such difficulty in future.

Very respectfully
Yr Obt

T Dunlap Prest

Mint of the United States
Treasurer's Office
January 14th 1841

Sir,

I herewith forward you the quarterly accounts of the receipts and expenditures of the Mint, for the last quarter of the last year, which I hope you will find to be exact.

Very respectfully,
Your obed. Svt
Robt Patterson
Treasurer

Hon. Nicholas Roosevelt
First Auditor of the Treasury

Mint of the United States,
Jan. 6, 1841.

Sir,

The amount of gold remaining uncoined at the Mint, on the 30th of November last, was $65,237.

Deposits in December:

Foreign Coins	$45,165.	
Foreign Bullion	8,736.	
N.A. Bullion	3,609.	
U.S. Coins (O.S.)	588.	58,098.
		$123,335.

Assays in December:

In Eagles	$103,580.	
" Half Eagles	8,505.	112,085.

Remaining uncoined, Dec. 31, 1840, subject to adjustment in next report — $11,250

Very respectfully

R.M.P.

Director.

Confidential.

Washington 8th January 1841

Dear Sir,

I feel much obliged by the two medals of Franklin and Carroll — I intend, when submitting your account referred to the President, to accompany it with some further recommendation as to the value of the Engravings & the striking off of medals &c —

It may be necessary for us, unless Congress provide some other means to place some dependence on the money held to aid in getting metal for Coining &c.

But they can be paid in Silver, when concurred, and the gold kept for transfer here — if needed — provided you have silver enough to meet them —

Should the Banks soon resume specie payments the Treasury will be able, before the year closes, to replenish you again —

Respectfully & Truly

Levi Woodbury

Dr. R. M. Patterson
Philadelphia —

Princeton Jany 29th 1841

Sir,

Your letter of the 27th inst. with the enclosed communication from the secretary of the Treasury was received yesterday - I have cept with much pleasure the appointment of one of the commissioners to attend your next assay and will not fail to be in attendance at the mint on Monday the 8th proximo at half past nine in the morning.

With much respect
Your Obt. Servt.
Joseph Henry

To/
Dr. R. M. Patterson
United States Mint
Philada

Mint of the United States,
Philada. April 30. 1841.

Gentlemen,

Your deposit of mixed Silver Coins has been received, and the return will be ready to-day. — In respect to Mexican dollars (of which you give some details in your letter) I would observe, that it is the practice of our Assayer to keep a watch upon them, not only as to their weight and fineness, in general, but also as to any characteristic differences of the various Mints. Those Mints being State or Provincial Establishments, receive for the General Government the legal rates of coinage; ~~and act upon them~~ but are not controlled by any subsequent test, as is the case in this country, & in France. Consequently, there is some difference in the dollars of the respective Mints of Mexico, and still further, in the dollars of the same Mint, of different dates. All these facts, when fairly digested, are intended to be published in a Work on Coins, of which you have already seen a Prospectus. In the meantime I would remark, that your memorandum from Paris corresponds with our experience, so far as it goes. Dollars of Mexico, Durango, and Potosi are of the best class; Guanaxuato and Chihuahua are next; and after these, Zacatecas & Guadalaxara must be

be ranked. – Dollars of Zacatecas are apt to be deficient in weight, even when new. On an average, they contain, while uncoin, just about as much silver as our dollar; & if not mixed with others, would not yield a profit on re-coinage. This, by the way, is the most considerable Mint in that country; that is, its coinage, for some years past, has almost equalled that of all the other Mints taken together.

Several deposits have been received here, & in which it was manifest that the leaner dollars had been assorted, for the Mint, leaving the lighter ones for the market. This practice would soon deteriorate the character of Mexican coin; since, after a little wear, these lighter pieces could not be re-coined except at a loss, and they would therefore remain in our circulation, and would have a tendency (so far as they went) to drive the legitimate national coin out of sight.

Very respectfully
your faithful servt

Messrs Becker & Marshall,
New York.

New York Apl 28th 1841

Dr Sir

Your esteemed favor of Apl 22nd came safe to hand for which please accept our thanks. There appears to be some difference in the coinage of Mex Dollars those of the letter Z are the worst if you have assayed any lately at the Mint we should like to know whether the Z Dollars are worse than the American Dollars that is whether there is silver enough in them to make an American Dollar we have a memorandum as below from Paris

best Mexican Dollars M°
also good ——— D° Durango
not so good ——— D° Potosi
worse ——— D° Zacatecas

they may be all good but the French extract the Gold from the Silver and may value them according to that Standard should be well for the Mint to look well to look well to all the Coins from South America as after all they can they are in such a disturbed state there they require watching Closely — we send on a box of old Coins mixed for Coinage today by Harndens Line which we wish Coined into Half Dollars

We are.

Dear Sir

Very respectfully

Your Obdt Servt

R M Patterson Esq

Robert [illegible]

PS we hope the officers of the Mint will urge Mr Tyler to reiterate Mr Van Buren's recommendations to Congress of last session

Mint of the United States,
Philadelphia, April 22. 1841.

Messrs. Beebee & Parshall,
New York

Gentlemen,

Some months since, your Mr. Beebee was at this Institution, and in a conversation with our Assayer, intimated a distrust as to the integrity of Peruvian half-dollars. He was then informed, that we had no reason to believe them inferior to their proper standard of value. Since that time, some attention has been given to this subject, and it is ascertained that Mr. Beebee's suspicions were well founded.

We notice the following three sorts of such coin; 1. those of Cuzco, dated 1835 & 1836, with the full length female figure, &c. 2. those of Arequipa, dated 1838, with the sun, &c. being the proper devices of the new republic of South Peru; and 3. those of Arequipa, dated 1836 and 1839, with the female figure, &c. devices of Peru before the division, & still retained by North Peru.—

The first kind is the most abundant. Yesterday we had a fair trial, upon 800 pieces. They weigh, on an average, 206½ grains, and are 867 thousandths fine; value per ounce, 86 cents; per piece, 37 cents, as near as may be.

The second class is heavier, averaging 220 grains; their value is 39 cents a piece.

The third class has furnished very few specimens, but may be estimated at the same rate as the first. — How it happens, that the legends and devices of North Peru are stamped on this class, since Arequipa is in South Peru, and (the last coins bearing date three years after the separation) we cannot understand.

The question arises, are these counterfeits? — The perfection of the coinage, and especially, the fact that we see no Peruvian half dollars of a higher standard, under it probable that these are also coined at the Peruvian mints, or elsewhere, ~~with the privity of Government~~ by private at the instance of the Government. It is very observable, that they contain, by a pretty nice calculation, two parts silver, to one of copper; and are intrinsically worth about 3 reals. A profit thus accrues, somewhere, to the amount of 25 per cent.

The same facts apply to Bolivian half dollars. We notice only the date of 1830. — Mexican half dollars are of the proper fineness.

On the other hand, quarter dollars, of Peru & Bolivia, as late as 1827, are of legal fineness & value; none of a later date have yet been assayed.

If you have any ~~suggestion~~ facts in relation to these matters, I shall be much obliged to you, for a communication of them. —

Very respectfully
your obt Servt

Mint of the U.S.
April 21, 1841.

Sir,

Your letter of the 19th inst., enclosing a ½ dime, and making inquiries as to counterfeits, was rec'd this morning.

In reply I have to state that the figure of Liberty was introduced upon the dimes & half dimes in 1836; but the circle of stars did not appear till 1838. Half & quarter dollars with the figure of Liberty were first coined in 1838; but none were ever issued without the stars.

The half dime enclosed in your letter is genuine. We save you postage by not enclosing it to you.

Very resp.

Yours

R. M. P.

Dir.

To/

Jas. W. Stowell,
Norwich & Worcester R. R. office,
Norwich, Conn.

Treasury Department
April 19th 1841

Sir,

In reply to your Letter of the 16th inst. requesting that a Warrant may be issued in favor of the Treasurer of the Mint for $1000, the amount appropriated by the Act of Congress of 3d March 1841 "for Specimens of ores & coins to be reserved at the Mint" I have to remark, that immediate attention will be given to the subject, as soon as the Bond of the new Treasurer of the Mint is received at this Department.

I am Respectfully Sir,
Your Obt. Servt.

J. Ewing
Secretary of the Treasury

R. M. Patterson Esq.
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia

Treasury Department Register's Office
Washington April 19th 1811

Robert M Patterson Esq

Dear Sir

I take the liberty of enclosing for your examination a coin, and wish to inquire whether it be counterfeit or genuine, and whether any coin has been issued from the mint of this description — If it is counterfeit the imitation is so close (with the exception of the stars omitted around the figure of liberty) as to render it difficult to distinguish it from the genuine coin — Considerable quantities of coin of this description are in circulation — of the denomination of 5. 10. 25 and 50 Cent Pieces — Recently one of our banks received a small amount of 5's and 10's from a bank in the City of New York which induced some doubts of the correctness of the commonly received opinion that they were counterfeit —

An answer to the above at your convenience will much oblige —

I am very Respectfully
Your Obt Servt

Mint U.S.
April 16/41.

Sir,

I have the honor to request that you will issue your warrant, in favor of the Treasurer of the Mint, for One thousand dollars, ($ 1000.) being the amount of the appropriation, for the present year, "for Specimens of Ores and Coins to be ordered at the Mint."

R. M. Patterson,
D.

To
Hon. Thomas Ewing,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Mint U. S.
April 15th, 1841.

Dear Sir,

I have to request that you will send to the ~~Sub Treasurer United States~~ "U. S. Mint, Philadelphia," the daily National Intelligencer, — to be charged to the Mint as an Office Paper.

P. M. P.

Hon
Mess Gales & Seaton,
Washington

Treasury Department,
Comptroller's Office.

April 13 1841.

Sir,

Joseph Ritner having been appointed Treasurer of the Mint at Philadelphia you will deliver to him, on application, all the public property in your possession, together with the forms, books of entry, and instructions relating to the duties of the office, with which you have been furnished by this department, for all which you will take duplicate receipts, [specifying every article] and forward one of them to this office.

Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant

Wm Sawyer
Comptroller.

William Findlay Esq
late Treasurer of the Mint
Philadelphia.

Mint of the United States,
Philadelphia, April 14. 1841.

Sir,

It is desirable that this Institution may be ~~[illegible]~~ in possession of accurate information, in regard to the amount of Coinage, of the principal nations; as also of the amount of precious metals annually raised, in those countries in which they are found. I have thus far been favored with valuable statistics from various parts of the world; and should it be within your power, I shall stand much indebted to you, for a reply to the following inquiries, as early as your convenience will allow.

1. What is the registered amount of Coinage in Chile, of gold and silver, annually, for ten years past?

2. What is known, or fairly supposed, to be the annual amount of gold and silver ~~annually~~ raised in Chile, for a few years past? — If there are any printed documents on this subject, or in relation to the same produce in other countries along the Pacific coast, they will be much valued.

3. Are there any legal restrictions as to the fineness of plate?

Your attention to these requests will be suitably acknowledged, and at any opportunity, gladly reciprocated.

Very respectfully
your faithful Servt.

Hon. Richard Pollard,
Chargé d'Affaires of the U.S.
Santiago, Chile.

The same (altering name & place) to

Hon. James C. Pickett, Chargé d'Affaires, Lima, North Peru.